

Sailing Weather Forecast  
2018 Race Week at Newport  
Narragansett Bay and Rhode Island Sound  
Issued 0530 EDT SATURDAY 21 JULY 2018

NOTE: Please send feedback to [feedback@sailwx.com](mailto:feedback@sailwx.com). Thanks!

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WARNING AND ADVISORIES: There are no warnings or advisories posted for the sailing area today. A GALE WATCH is posted for tonight. Monitor NOAA All Hazards Radio for the latest official warnings and advisories.

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SYNOPSIS: A very different day than what we've seen for the previous days of the regatta. A strong low pressure area over the Great Lakes is transferring some energy to the Atlantic coast where conditions are primed for development of a coastal low along North Carolina. This low is forecast to move north to the DelMarVa by this evening. The high pressure that was off the coast yesterday has moved to Nova Scotia.

Today's winds will be driven by increasing gradient between the departing high pressure and the strengthening/approaching low pressure from the Carolinas. Today's wind increase will be modest, but ramp quickly today, with a chance of GALE FORCE gusts developing overnight/tomorrow.

For today, the gradient will be from the E and gradually build through the day. Gradient strength will start around 10 and increase to 15 through the day. Again it is forecast to ramp overnight and into tomorrow, but today should remain well within sailable ranges for wind speed.

Weather will start to deteriorate today. A lot of tropical moisture will be moving north from the developing coastal low. Clouds will generally be on the increase today. The good news is that rain should hold off until evening, although there is a small risk that rain and showers could arrive in the very late afternoon from the south/southwest.

FORECAST DISCUSSION: E/ESE tending ESE in the morning and holding ESE through most of the day. On the bay 5-10 increasing to 8-12 but gusts into the mid-/upper-teens possible later in the afternoon. Offshore, 9-14 in the morning, building to 13-18 in the afternoon. Chance of gusts increase 20 during the latter half of the afternoon.

WEATHER: Mostly sunny this morning. Some high clouds overspreading the area at times. Then increasing clouds and becoming overcast this afternoon. Very slight chance of light showers arriving late afternoon. Better chance of rain arriving overnight.

**AIR TEMPERATURE:** Becoming more humid. Mid-60sF this morning, warming to upper 70sF this afternoon.

**SEAS:** Narragansett Bay - Flat water to less than 1 ft.

Rhode Island Sound - Becoming rough. Flat chop this morning. Swell 2 ft. Chop increasing to 2-3 ft on a slight S'ly swell.

**Detailed Wind Forecast for TODAY - NARRAGANSETT BAY:**

Time (Local)	Wind Direction (Magnetic)	Most Likely Shift	Shift Type	10M TWS (Knots)	COMMENTS	Potential Gust
21-Jul-18 08:00	095 - 125	▼	Oscillating	03 - 07	Overnight cooling of land keeps winds light @1st	8
21-Jul-18 09:00	100 - 130	▼	Oscillating	04 - 08		10
21-Jul-18 10:00	110 - 140	▼	Oscillating	06 - 10	A little heating of the upwind land causes winds to mix down	12
21-Jul-18 11:00	105 - 135	▼	Oscillating	06 - 10		12
21-Jul-18 12:00	100 - 130	▼	Oscillating	07 - 11	Although wind looks steady, up and down pressure with some turbulent puffs off the land	13
21-Jul-18 13:00	100 - 130	▼	Oscillating	07 - 11		13
21-Jul-18 14:00	100 - 130	▼	Oscillating	08 - 12		14
21-Jul-18 15:00	100 - 130	▼	Oscillating	08 - 12		14
21-Jul-18 16:00	095 - 125	▼	Oscillating	08 - 12		14
21-Jul-18 17:00	100 - 130	▼	Oscillating	08 - 12		14
21-Jul-18 18:00	105 - 135	▼	Oscillating	08 - 12		14

**Detailed Wind Forecast for TODAY - RHODE ISLAND SOUND:**

Time (Local)	Wind Direction (Magnetic)	Most Likely Shift	Shift Type	10M TWS (Knots)	COMMENTS	Potential Gust	
21-Jul-18 08:00	100 - 130	▼	Oscillating	09 - 13		15	
21-Jul-18 09:00	095 - 125	▼	Oscillating	10 - 14		16	
21-Jul-18 10:00	100 - 130	▼	L	Oscillating	10 - 14	Slight left trend possible	16
21-Jul-18 11:00	095 - 125	▼	L	Persistent	09 - 13		15
21-Jul-18 12:00	090 - 120	▼	L	Oscillating	10 - 14	Building gradient	16
21-Jul-18 13:00	090 - 120	▼		Oscillating	12 - 16		19
21-Jul-18 14:00	095 - 125	▼		Oscillating	13 - 17		20
21-Jul-18 15:00	090 - 120	▼		Oscillating	14 - 18	Gradient increasing gradually	21
21-Jul-18 16:00	090 - 120	▼		Oscillating	14 - 18		21
21-Jul-18 17:00	090 - 120	▼		Oscillating	14 - 18	Watch for possible showers approaching from	21
21-Jul-18 18:00	090 - 120	▼		Oscillating	14 - 18	SW or S	21

**HEDGE:** 1) Forecast Confidence: AVERAGE.

Models are in good agreement. Hedging a little stronger than consensus - especially to account for gusts.

2) Models are very stable with wind direction - especially in the afternoon. Oscillating direction most likely, generally around a 5-10 deg range.

3) Note that winds blowing across the bay will be more turbulent and unsettled. Even though it looks stable in the wind table, turbulent

gusts moving off the shore will make it seem less stable. The gust to lull ratio will increase through the day as well.

4) As noted, rain is forecast to hold off. If rain arrives earlier, it may indicate a quicker building gradient and possibility of stronger winds in the later afternoon.

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