



# National Weather Service Tallahassee, Florida

## When you're on the water, be a good spotter!

### Why reports are important

Our area is known for quick forming thunderstorms that can be dangerous to boaters. These storms are especially common in the summer and can produce gusty winds, deadly lightning and large waves. Before you head out on the water, be prepared by checking the weather forecast and having ways to receive weather warnings.

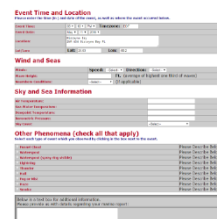
Marine observations are very sparse over the northern Florida Gulf Coast so we value your feedback and reports. If you experience strong winds, large waves or waterspouts, let us know so we can alert other boaters. When you send in a report via the web form or mPING app, the NWS is immediately notified and we can issue a Marine Weather Statement. To receive these statements and Special Marine Warnings tune to VHF channel WX 1 (162.550 MHz). Additional marine weather channels are listed at right. Ground truth from boaters like you helps us to continue to improve our forecasts and warnings. Help us keep everyone safe by being our eyes and ears on the water!

NOAA Weather Radio Frequencies
162.400 MHz (WX2)
162.425 MHz (WX4)
162.450 MHz (WX5)
162.475 MHz (WX3)
162.500 MHz (WX6)
162.525 MHz (WX7)
162.550 MHz (WX1)

### Ways to send reports

- **Web based Marine Reports:** Enter your location, type of weather and any details. You can also enter contact information; it will not be seen by anyone but NWS forecasters, who may contact you for more details. Even if you cannot fill out the form until you return to shore, we still appreciate the report. The form can be found here:

<http://www.srh.noaa.gov/srh/marine/report/>



- **mPING** is free app for the public to send real time weather observations. It is available in the Apple App store and Google play. Visit the mPING website here: <http://mping.nssl.noaa.gov/>



- **Tweet** us reports @NWSTallahassee or use the #TLHspotter hashtag.

Things to include in reports:

- Location
- Type of weather
- Time
- Duration

- **Call the NWS** at (850) 942-8833 option 9 to speak to a forecaster

#TLHspotter



[weather.gov/tallahassee](http://weather.gov/tallahassee)



Social Media:  
**NWSTallahassee**

Last updated:  
**June 2016**



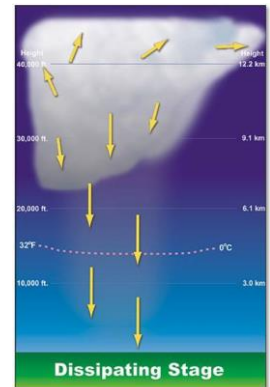
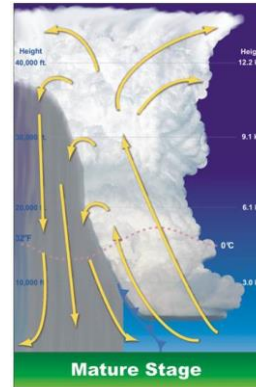
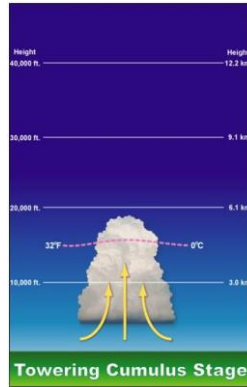
# National Weather Service Tallahassee, Florida

## Building a Weather-Ready Nation *Before you untether, check the weather!*

### Did you know?

In the summer thunderstorms generally follow a land breeze and sea breeze pattern. At night storms are more likely to form over the water. As the land heats up quickly during the day, storms are more likely to form along the coast and move inland. Summer thunderstorms are usually “pulse” thunderstorms that form and dissipate quickly. The entire life cycle is about 30 minutes.

- **Special Marine Warning:** thunderstorm with one or more of following
  - Wind 34 knots (39 mph) or greater
  - Hail 3/4 in diameter or greater
  - Waterspouts



- **Storm distance from radar:** The further the storm is from the radar, the harder it is to sample the lower part of the storm. Since waterspouts form at the lowest part of a storm, they are often difficult to detect on radar. While we appreciate reports of all marine weather, waterspout reports and pictures are especially helpful.



### Wireless Emergency Alerts

Wireless Emergency Alerts are a great way to receive warnings. Most smartphones are set up to receive emergency alerts such as tornado warnings, flash flood warnings and Amber alerts. Check your phone settings to ensure that the WEA function is enabled. For more info: <http://www.nws.noaa.gov/com/weatherreadynation/wea.html>



### Contact Information and Links

Visit our marine webpage for forecasts and safety information: [www.srh.noaa.gov/tae/?n=marine](http://www.srh.noaa.gov/tae/?n=marine)  
 Call and speak to a forecaster: (850) 942-8833 option 9  
 NWS mobile webpage: <http://mobile.weather.gov/>  
 National Data Buoy Center mobile webpage: [www.ndbc.noaa.gov/mobile](http://www.ndbc.noaa.gov/mobile)  
 NWS Tallahassee Beach webpage: [www.weather.gov/beach/tae](http://www.weather.gov/beach/tae)



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