



# Q & A with NWS Raleigh Meteorologist Brian Haines



**Brian Haines**

**Position:** Lead Forecaster

**Education:** Texas A&M

**Hometown:** Houston, TX

**Q: Where did you go to school and what was your NWS Career Path to get to NWS Raleigh?**

A: I came to NWS Raleigh in June of 2018 from Wilmington, OH. I began my career as a NOAA Hollings Scholar back in 2008. During the summer of 2009 I worked at the Houston/ Galveston WFO researching public response to Hurricane Ike. I then graduated in 2010 with my B.S. in Meteorology from Texas A&M University. For the next two years I served as a SCEP student at the Houston/ Galveston WFO while I was working on my masters degree.

After graduating from Texas A&M in 2012 with my masters, I started a full time meteorological intern spot at the Houston/ Galveston office. Then in 2015 I moved up to Wilmington, OH as a general forecaster. After the Wilmington WFO I then moved to Raleigh, NC!

**Q: What got you into weather?**

A: My interest in weather started when I was out on the playground in elementary school. I saw a line of storms approaching from the west when I was on the swing set. It was a hot summer day and all of a sudden the weather turned cooler ahead of the approaching storms. At the time I didn't know that a cold pool had come through, but I was very interested in learning more about what had happened. From that time on I started tracking the weather. I even kept daily high and low temperature records from my childhood home!



**Q: What is your current role here at NWS Raleigh?**

A: My current role at NWS Raleigh is serving as lead forecaster. As lead forecaster I am responsible for ensuring products and services are issued in a timely manner. We routinely issue the public forecast, aviation forecast, fire weather forecast, and severe weather watches and warnings when needed.

**Q: What is your favorite type of weather to forecast?**

A: Winter weather. I am originally from Houston, TX and then moved to Wilmington, OH before coming to Raleigh, NC. After moving to Wilmington, OH winter weather quickly became one of my favorite types of weather phenomena to forecast.

**Q: What is the most challenging part of your job?**

A: The most challenging part of my job is communicating pertinent weather information to our core customers. As an agency it is critical for us to be able to effectively communicate key points of impactful weather to the public.

**Q: What is the most memorable weather event you have covered in your career?**

A: One of the most memorable weather events I have worked was when I was deployed to Greer, SC for Hurricane Joaquin. I was a new general forecaster and the experience of going to another office for such a high impact event and being able to jump right in was priceless. Parts of northwest South Carolina received up to 10 inches of rainfall. I remember the daily record rainfall for October 3rd, 2015 at Greenville- Spartanburg being broken before sunrise that morning!

**Q: What do you like to do in your spare time?**

A: In my spare time I enjoy spending time with my family. Over the last couple of years it has been great to see my son grow up and develop his own personality. I also enjoy running which helps offset my other favorite activity, eating!