



Q & A with NWS Raleigh Meteorologist Tom Green



Tom Green

Position: Meteorologist/Forecaster

Education: North Carolina State University

Hometown: Raleigh, NC

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

I'm a member of the Wolfpack! I went to NC State for my bachelor's degree and continued at State for my master's degree. While I was working on my master's degree, I was a member of the first NWS-NCSU student volunteer course. Participating in the course was a unique opportunity to get a taste of the National Weather Service before getting hired, and once I volunteered, I knew that it was my goal to work for the NWS one day.

What got you into weather?

Weather just always fascinated me from an early age. There wasn't any particular event that caught my interest, but in elementary school when we had to do science fair projects, I did half of mine on the weather.

What is your favorite type of weather?

Sunny! I lived in Upper Michigan and western Pennsylvania for 13 years before I moved back to Raleigh last year, and you would be lucky to get one day of sun each WEEK. I appreciate the sun so much more now that I'm back in North Carolina.

What is the most challenging part of your job?

The rotating shiftwork. We rotate through day, evening, and midnight shifts three times in ten weeks. That makes it hard to get used to ANY sleep schedule. In addition, it wrecks havoc with our social life - you're not available to see people when you're working evening shifts and you might need to stay in and take a nap if you don't sleep well on your midnight shift.



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

Hurricane Sandy. While the impact of Sandy was minimal in Pittsburgh itself, “only” four inches of rain, I was the person who issued a blizzard warning for our West Virginia mountain counties. They ended up with about 30 inches of wet, heavy snow in a 24 hour period.

What do you like to do in your spare time?

I enjoy playing board games, going out to trivia, and watching college football/basketball.