



# Drill, Baby, Drill - Reading Weather Reports!

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Nothing can seem simpler than reading the weather report. You open the paper. It says "80% chance of rain today" and you cancel plans. When it doesn't rain, or rains for 30 minutes, we grouse about the forecaster - "how can someone be wrong 50% of the time and keep their jobs!" But if you had drilled down a little, maybe there was more information that you could have used to your benefit - and an appreciation of the forecaster.

### Weather on the Web

Clearly, the world is awash in web sites that can tell you the weather. Here is just a partial list:

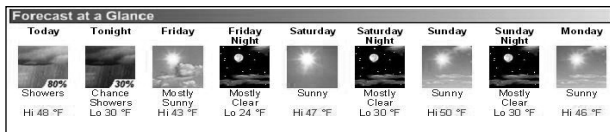
- www.weather.com The Weather Channel
- www.accuweather.com AccuWeather
- www.weatherbug.com The Weather Bug
- www.wunderground.com Weather Underground
- http://forecast.weather.gov NOAA

And the information providers all have a weather channel - AOL, Yahoo, etc. Each portrays pretty much the same information that you can get by opening the newspaper over a cup of coffee at the kitchen table. And you may be surprised to know that they all likely get their weather data from the same source - the US's NOAA - the National Oceanic & Atmospheric Administration. NOAA (www.noaa.gov) is part of the Commerce Department, which says a lot about what government thinks affects business the most! If NOAA's website has any fault at all, it is how much information you can get from it! But, as NOAA says, "NOAA's weather programs touch the lives of every American. Every day, decisions are made

based on NOAA weather information - from the mundane "should I pack an umbrella today?" to the most critical and potentially life-saving." So, "more" is putting safety first. And that is where safety must be.

### So...

If all the services get their basic data from NOAA, why don't you just go there and get the info? An example of what you can get directly from NOAA would be:



This probably looks amazingly similar to any of the weather reports you see in the paper or on your internet provider. So, maybe we all just should go to NOAA. It is free too!

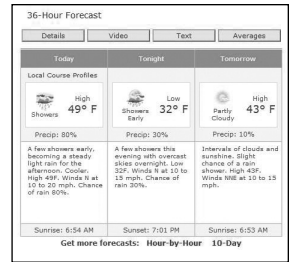
But the real answer, going back to the intro of this column, is you want to be able to drill down and not every weather service gives you that ability.

### Drill, Baby, Drill!

On any given day, you can get a weather report which tells you that the chance of rain is 80%, such as March 19, 2009 did. So, if you are planning to do anything outside, you might cancel or move it to another venue. But the 80% covers the whole day, i.e., there is an 80% chance that it will rain sometime today... When?

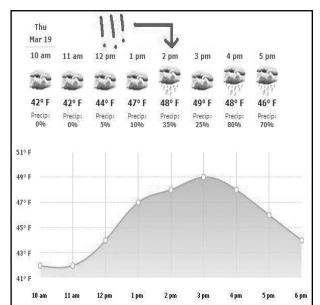
Here is what you can find at www.weather.com, as an example:

But there are two 'buttons' of interest. Upper left corner it says "Details" and along the bottom it says "Hour-By-Hour." Hmm... If we try Details, we get:



Better but what I really want to know is when the rain is likely to arrive and this still looks like all day! What happens if I drill down on hour-by-hour?

Bingo! If you look at the chances of precipitation (just above the graph of temperatures), you'll see that the chances of rain before 2pm of about 1 in 3 or less! Even by 3pm, it is even money that no rain has fallen!



Drill, Baby, Drill - and how about we get some fishing in this morning!!!

BTW, if you are interested in being part of USCG Forces, email me at JoinUSCGAux2009@aol.com or go direct to Lisa Etter, who is in charge of new members matters, at FSO-PS@emcg.us and we will help you "get in this thing..."



## FISHING WITH TONY

### Action Slow to Get Going as Spring Springs Ahead

by TONY SALERNO

It's been a tough go at fishing for most of this past week, but don't be so fast to blame the lack of fish. No doubt between the low pressure fronts and the never ending supply of gusty winds, water temps continue to hover in the mid forties keeping flounder sluggish and other desirables such as striped bass and blackfish also feeling a bit lethargic.

However, don't be so fast to stick the rods in the corner of the garage in exchange for the golf clubs. With air temps predicted to feel real spring like this week, it's only a matter of days before the action breaks wide open.

In actuality, between windows when the weather does decide to cooperate, the flounder fishing has been quite good along the east side of Moriches Bay north of buoys 30 and 31. Gary from Silly Lily Fishing Station in East Moriches has been averaging about 10 flatties to 3 pounds per trip in only an hour or so of effort. Gary suggests fishing at the bottom of the tide with plenty of fresh mussel chum and worms and mussels for the hook. Be patient and wait for the flounder to come to the boat advises Gary. Incidentally, Silly Lily has rental boats available as well as all the required bait, chum and tackle to help get you into the action.

Moving further east, there still are a few flatties showing interest in worm and mussel baits in the Quogue Canal; however, those fish are quickly moving into Moriches and Shinnecock Bays and it's only a matter of a few more warmer degrees before the bay bite wakes up. The Smith Point Bridge area did see some flounder taken this week, but the real spark of interest in the area is the abundance of school bass that have taken hold for the time being.

Most of the stripers are shy of being keepers with most being caught accidentally by flounder pounders. The annual spring run of weakfish through the gates of the Shinnecock Canal is only days away; however, keep in mind that the action is short lived, with a 2 or 3-day window of opportunity.

In the meantime, bluefish will be bending rods within the next few days, along with a better showing of quality stripers. Hang in there, the fiesta is about to begin.

### Tides for Moriches Inlet Starting with May 13, 2009

Day	High/Low	Tide Time	Height Feet	Sunrise/Sunset	Moon Time	% Moon Visible
Wed. 13	Low	4:17 AM	0.2	5:35 AM 8:00 PM	Set 8:43 AM	87
	High	10:39 AM	2.5			
	Low	4:10 PM	0.6			
	High	10:44 PM	3.0			
Thur. 14	Low	4:57 AM	0.4	5:34 AM 8:01 PM	Rise 12:14 AM Set 9:43 AM	80
	High	11:28 AM	2.5			
	Low	4:51 PM	0.7			
	High	11:31 PM	2.9			
Fri. 15	Low	5:40 AM	0.5	5:33 AM 8:02 PM	Rise 12:46 AM Set 10:44 AM	72
	High	12:15 PM	2.4			
	Low	5:39 PM	0.8			
Sat. 16	High	12:18 AM	2.8	5:33 AM 8:02 PM	Rise 1:14 AM Set 11:45 AM	63
	Low	6:30 AM	0.5			
	High	1:01 PM	2.5			
	Low	6:43 PM	0.9			
Sun. 17	High	1:05 AM	2.7	5:32 AM 8:03 PM	Rise 1:38 AM Set 12:47 PM	54
	Low	7:26 AM	0.5			
	High	1:47 PM	2.5			
	Low	7:55 PM	0.8			
Mon. 18	High	1:54 AM	2.7	5:31 AM 8:04 PM	Rise 2:01 AM Set 1:49 PM	44
	Low	8:21 AM	0.5			
	High	2:35 PM	2.7			
	Low	8:58 PM	0.7			
Tue. 19	High	2:47 AM	2.7	5:30 AM 8:05 PM	Rise 2:23 AM Set 2:53 PM	34
	Low	9:10 AM	0.4			
	High	3:25 PM	2.9			
	Low	9:53 PM	0.5			
Wed. 20	High	3:44 AM	2.7	5:29 AM 8:06 PM	Rise 2:47 AM Set 4:00 PM	25
	Low	9:57 AM	0.3			
	High	4:17 PM	3.1			
	Low	10:45 PM	0.4			
Thur. 21	High	4:42 AM	2.8	5:28 AM 8:07 PM	Rise 3:12 AM Set 5:11 PM	16
	Low	10:43 AM	0.1			
	High	5:07 PM	3.3			
	Low	11:36 PM	0.1			
Fri. 22	High	5:36 AM	2.9	5:28 AM 8:08 PM	Rise 3:42 AM Set 6:25 PM	9
	Low	11:31 AM	0.1			
	High	5:56 PM	3.6			
Sat. 23	Low	12:27 AM	-0.1	5:27 AM 8:09 PM	Rise 4:18 AM Set 7:41 PM	3
	High	6:28 AM	3.0			
	Low	12:20 PM	-0.1			
	High	6:43 PM	3.8			
Sun. 24	Low	1:19 AM	-0.2	5:26 AM 8:10 PM	Rise 5:04 AM Set 8:55 PM	0
	High	7:18 AM	3.0			
	Low	1:12 PM	-0.1			
	High	7:31 PM	3.8			