

Weather Class Tours National Weather Service Facility

By P/C John Shivik, AP

Class members and spouses as well as those from last year's Weather class, attended a tour of the National Weather Service Facility, Sterling Virginia on 30 March 2010 (see photos below). The tour started with the launch of the radiosonde balloon at 2400 Zulu (1900 Local). Comprehensive briefings from Brandon Peloquin, Senior Forecaster of the National Weather Service Forecast Office, Sterling, Virginia and other staff members presented an outstanding briefing on marine weather and NWS / NOAA products available for boaters. These products provide the boater with an in depth assessment of conditions that help make a Skipper's decision to venture forth beyond safe harbor. Here is one URL that you should readily seek: <http://www.erh.noaa.gov/lwx/marine.htm>

Also, ensure you listen on your VHF radio to the local forecast before going out on the briny. These products are tailored to the various locations on the Chesapeake, Potomac and more that will enhance your safe boating. Think a minute about the impact of weather on your life. Sun, wind, rain, snow, thunderstorms, tornadoes, hurricanes, waves and fog are a few that can influence your safety afloat and ashore.

Consider signing up for the USPS Weather course. Be safe! Contact our Squadron Education Officer (education@nvsps.org) for more information on the course.



