

How to Read a Nautical Chart "The Basics"

WHEN: Saturday, March 28th
TIME: 0830 – 1600 hrs.
WHERE: Sodus Point Village Hall
FEE: \$50.00 – students keep Chart 14802 and student study guide booklet.
 We provide the following for in-class use only: dividers, parallel ruler, erasers and mechanical pencils.

Bring lunch and/or snacks/drinks.

NOTE: STUDENTS MUST REGISTER TWO WEEKS PRIOR TO THE START OF THE CLASS TO INSURE ENROLLMENT

*Teaching Maritime
Safety & Skills*

Offered by:

**Sodus Bay
Maritime Captains
Association**

Do You Need This Course?
If you know the meaning of everything you see here in this column, and can locate it on the chart, then probably not.



Red and white (soft-water) pillar-buoy on station. Note the single spherical topmark.

**Iso R 6s 40ft 6StM
 Oc 10s R "2"
 F RWG
 1:80,000
 RW Mo(A)
 RG "SM" Fl(2+1) R 6s**



**C
 G "3" Fl G 4s**

R "44" Fl R 3s

**MLLW
 43°55.85'N;076°38.25'W
 Fl 6s 77ft 12StM
 G "M9" Fl G 4s
 Iso 4s 47ft 6 StM
 043T**

Who Are We?

We are a member association, consisting of United States Coast Guard Licensed Captains. Our primary purpose is the education of the boating public and the continuing education of our members in maritime safety and skills. As a minimum requirement of membership, our members hold Master Licenses. In order to obtain that license, our member Captains have completed a rigorous application process demonstrating appropriate on-the-water experience and submitting to drug testing, medical examinations and background checks. In addition, members have passed a comprehensive examination, administered by the Coast Guard, covering Piloting, Aids to Navigation, Rules of the Road, First Aid, Weather, General Seamanship, Sailing, and Towing.



For more information email:

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Or Visit our web page:

www.sodusbaycaptains.org

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What Will You Learn?



Class time is approximately 6-8 hours. We have chosen Chart 14802, 'Clayton to the False Ducks' which many Lake Ontario boaters would use en-route to the Thousand Islands, a popular cruising destination. The skills learned in this course and work from this chart can be applied to any NOAA chart. One of our basic objectives is to correlate what you see on the chart to what you actually see on the water. You need to know where you are at all times, and if you don't, a pleasure cruise could turn into a fiasco.

Course Outline

- ❑ How to interpret the use of colors and labeling of the chart.
- ❑ Understand how to read charted depths and elevations. Know if you can safely pass over danger areas or under bridges.
- ❑ Learn how to measure distance in nautical & statute miles.
- ❑ Understand the Compass Rose and the difference between True and Magnetic North.
- ❑ Learn how to give headings in degrees and identify the cardinal and inter-cardinal compass points.
- ❑ Learn how Aids to Navigation are defined by color, shape, numbering/lettering and lights/light sequence.
- ❑ Use latitude and longitude to find a position on the chart.
- ❑ Work out problems using distance, direction, latitude & longitude. Identify major and minor lights, and more.



Know where you are!

Real World Skills



Team Vestas shipwrecked over 600 miles off-shore in the Indian Ocean and even though millions of dollars were spent on sophisticated electronics, crew and boat, they still ran aground because they were using an electronic chart at a scale which hid these dangerous shoals.

Know that electronics will fail, and power will be lost, but knowledgeable use of paper charts, along with a compass, dividers and binoculars will never be obsolete. Reading and interpreting what you see on a nautical chart and correlating that information to what you see on the water is an invaluable skill. "How to Read a Nautical Chart –The Basics" is the first step to learning these time honored and proven skills.