

PILOTING COURSE

Provided by Pamlico Sail and Power Squadron

When: April 6 through May 25
6:45 to 8:45 each Tuesday Evening

Where: Lifestyles Fitness Center - Washington

Cost: \$45.00 per person

Scheduled

Instructors: Bob Hatla, Don Dunlap & Mike Staples

Sign Up: Call Robert Stanley at 252-940-8107 or email rstanley@pamlicosailandpowersquadron.org

Course Description

The Piloting course is the first in the sequence of USPS courses on navigation, covering the basics of coastal and inland navigation. This all-new course focuses on navigation as it is done on recreational boats today and embraces GPS as a primary navigation tool while covering enough of traditional techniques so the student will be able to find his/her way even if their GPS fails. The course includes many in-class exercises, developing the student's skills through hands-on practice and learning.

Topics covered include:

- Charts and their interpretation
- Navigation aids and how they point to safe water
- Plotting courses and determining direction and distance
- The mariner's compass and converting between True and Magnetic
- Use of GPS – typical GPS displays and information they provide, setting up waypoints and routes, staying on a GPS route.
- Pre-planning safe courses and entering them into the GPS
- Monitoring progress and determining position by both GPS and traditional techniques such as bearings and dead reckoning
- The “Seaman’s Eye” – simple skills for checking that one is on course.