

In this Winlink Thursday Exercise for February 3rd, 2022, you will:

1. Learn how to send a Weather Report in your area, especially if deployed outside your usual location. Such weather information provides useful "situational awareness" information for planning purposes, especially in a Disaster Response.
2. Enter your GPS location manually, or use a GPS receiver USB dongle. See last page for more information.
3. Learn about the Beaufort Wind scale and reporting approximate wind conditions

Some reminders, especially for New Arrivals to ETO:

- Read and Follow the Instructions Precisely. Details are sometimes missed in the reading, and some of our assignments can be tricky!
- **Make Sure you Address the Correct Clearinghouse for Your Geographic Location** (especially if you're temporarily in a different region)
 - Our Tactical Addresses are all formatted as "ETO-nn", where nn is *always* either a 2-digit number ("01", "03", "10"...) or "DX".
 - Make sure you type a ZERO, not the letter "O".
 - If you don't know your Clearinghouse's Tactical Address, use this web page to look it up: https://emcomm-training.org/More_Info.html#Maps
- For our exercises, we recommend that you always check the "Request message receipt" box in your message, before you Post it to your OutBox.
- Another suggestion from our Gurus: put your own "normal" Email Address in the CC box, so that you receive a copy in your non-Winlink Email, as another confirmation that your Winlink message was sent out correctly.

Optional, but helpful for this exercise.

Watch this video that explains the Beaufort scale: <https://youtu.be/gDm1V90Cgec>

Observe your local weather conditions and use the Beaufort scale to determine the wind speed at you location.

A Beaufort scale chart has been included after the steps to send the weather report.

Steps to send your weather report:

1. Open the Winlink Express app.
2. Click on Create a “New Message”.
3. Select Template and double click on “Standard templates”.
4. Scroll down and Double Click on “Weather Forms”.
5. Select “Local Weather Report” and double click on it to open it.
6. In the top section:
 - a. Enter **call sign, time/date, name, and location** information.
 - b. Input your Latitude and Longitude, or use a GPS dongle automatically enter your LAT/LON information. See information below on GPS Dongles.
7. In the Weather Section:
 - a. For “Measurement Used”, select your measurement system for your location.
 - b. Complete the Current Local Weather Conditions for **Temperature** and **Windspeed**. (See the Beaufort Scale below for wind speed reporting)
 - c. Optionally, fill in the rest of the weather information. For non-exercise weather reports it is important to provide all the information that you can get.
8. Click on the Submit button.
9. Close the browser.
10. Enter your ETO clearing house address in the To: line.
11. Enter your internet email address in the CC: line.
12. Click on “Post to Outbox” on the menu bar.
13. Check the Outbox folder to verify you message is in the Outbox.
14. Select you session type from the drop-down list to the right of the Open Session button.
15. Click the Open Session Button.
16. The Open Session Window will open. Click Start to send your message.

One of the first scales to estimate wind speeds and the effects was created by Britain's Admiral Sir Francis Beaufort (1774-1857). He developed the scale in 1805 to help sailors estimate the winds via visual observations.

The scale starts with 0 and goes to a force of 12. The Beaufort scale is still used today to estimate wind strengths.

BEAUFORT SCALE					
Beaufort Number	Name	Knots	MPH	Effects Observed Far From Land	Effects Observed On Land
0	Calm	Under 1	Under 1	Sea like mirror.	Calm; smoke rises vertically.
1	Light Air	1-3	1-3	Ripples with appearances of scales; no foam crests.	Direction of wind shown by smoke drift, but not by wind vanes.
2	Light Breeze	4-6	4-7	Small wavelets; crests of glassy appearance, not breaking.	Wind felt on face; leaves rustle; ordinary vane moved by wind.
3	Gentle Breeze	7-10	8-12	Large wavelets; crests begin to break; scattered whitecaps.	Leaves and small twigs in constant motion; wind extends light flag.
4	Moderate Breeze	11-16	13-18	Small waves, becoming longer; numerous whitecaps.	Raises dust and loose paper, small branches are moved.
5	Fresh Breeze	17-21	19-24	Moderate waves, taking longer form; many whitecaps; some spray.	Small trees in leaf begin to sway; crested wavelets form on inland waters.
6	Strong Breeze	22-27	25-31	Larger waves forming; whitecaps everywhere; more spray.	Large branches in motion; whistling heard in telegraph wires; umbrellas used with difficulty.
7	Near Gale	28-33	32-38	Sea heaps up; white foam from breaking waves begins to be blown in streaks.	Whole trees in motion; inconvenience felt in walking against the wind.
8	Gale	34-40	39-46	Moderately high waves of greater length; edges of crests begin to break into spindrift; foam is blown in well-marked streaks.	Breaks twigs off trees; generally impedes progress.
9	Strong Gale	41-47	47-54	High waves; sea begins to roll; dense streaks of foam; spray may reduce visibility.	Slight structural damage occurs (chimney pots and slate removed).
10	Storm	48-55	55-63	Very high waves with overhanging crests; sea takes white appearance as foam is blown in very dense streaks; rolling is heavy and visibility reduced.	Seldom experienced inland; trees uprooted; considerable structural damage occurs.
11	Violent Storm	56-63	64-72	Exceptionally high waves; sea covered with white foam patches; visibility still more reduced.	Very rarely experienced; accompanied by widespread damage.
12	Hurricane	64 and over	73 and over	Air filled with foam; sea completely white with driving spray; visibility reduced.	

**EXAMPLES OF A GPS RECEIVER.
NOT AN ENDORSEMENT NOR A REQUIREMENT!**

Low-cost GPS Receiver



[DIYmall VK-172 VK 172 Gmouse G-Mouse USB GPS Dongle Glonass Support Windows 10/8/7/vista/XP/Raspberry PI Vehicle Aviation Tracker \(Pack of 1pc\)](https://www.amazon.com/dp/B008200LHW/)

While more expensive, the Global SAT GPS has a cord that allows easier placement near windows for improved GPS signal reception while indoors.



<https://www.amazon.com/GlobalSat-BU-353-S4-USB-Receiver-Black/dp/B008200LHW/>

Lower cost and has a cord that allows easier placement near windows for improved GPS signal reception while indoors.



<https://www.amazon.com/dp/B01EROIUEW/>

Also, please visit the “F.A.Q.” page on our web site, at [EmComm-Training.org](https://emcomm-training.org), for a new article on “How to Add a GPS to Winlink Express”.

<https://emcomm-training.org/FAQ.html>