



# Piloting



**Course overview:** The first in a sequence of USPS courses on navigation, Piloting covers the basics of coastal and inland navigation. This all new course focuses on recreational boat navigation and embraces GPS as a primary navigation tool while covering traditional techniques so the student will find their way if the GPS fails. In class exercises will develop student skills through hands-on practice.

**Topics covered:**

- Charts and their interpretation.
- Navigation aids and how they lead to safe waters.
- Plotting courses; determining direction and distance.
- Mariner's compass; converting between True and Magnetic courses.
- Use of GPS, typical displays, information, setting up waypoints and routes and keeping on a route.
- Preplanning safe courses and entering them into a GPS.
- Monitoring progress and determining position with both GPS and traditional techniques such as bearings and dead reckoning.
- The "Seaman's eye", simple skills to check that one is on course.

**Instruction includes:** PowerPoint presentation and student textbook

**Dates:** 10 consecutive Tuesdays starting 1/25, ending 3/29/2011

**Hours:** 7:00 to 9:00pm

**Location:** Westwood Council of Aging, Nahatan Street, between Middle School and H.S.

**Fee:** Non- members \$126, Members \$105, Auditing \$71.

**Registration:** Contact Don Johnstone dsjohnstone@yahoo.com

**Offered by:** Great Blue Hill Sail & Power Squadron

**Instructors:** Robert and Linda White

**More information:** USPS ABC and/or Seamanship recommended as prerequisite courses.