## What is the best time to watch for Storms?

The relative humidity for a normal thunderstorm before storm onset needs to be above 80%, except for a fire thunderstorm where it will plunge to 10% or less. Moisture is the fuel of storms.

According to NASA "While over land, thunderstorms are most likely to occur at the warmest, most humid part of the day, which is usually the afternoon or evening. Over the ocean they are most likely to occur in the early hours of the morning before dawn."

If the pressure remains above 1009 mb, there can be no storms. It is best to switch on the Marine Barograph app around Noon on land. When the pressure starts falling at more than 1.0 mb / hour a storm may be approaching.

Use The Thunderstorm Rule to be certain:



## Thunderstorm Cloud Sequence

Always keep one eye on the barograph trace and the other eye on the sky. Cirrus clouds indicate the wind direction of the jet stream level winds, which are narrow bands of strong wind in the upper atmosphere.

When you can see only cirrus clouds, expect fair weather for the next 12–24 hours.

The further things are away from you, the slower they appear to move. You would expect very distant cirrus clouds to appear almost stationary. So, if you see them moving, they must be going very fast and you can expect a strong change.

When cirrostratus clouds immediately follow cirrus clouds, you can usually expect a storm or a snowstorm in 12–24 hours.



Cirrus clouds at sea. *Credit: Lieutenant Elizabeth Crapo, NOAA Corps* 



Cirrostratus Clouds