JET STREAM

The jet stream is the river of air 20,000 to 50,000 feet high that separates warm airmasses from cold airmasses. It helps to drive weather patterns and develop updrafts, which strengthen nor'easters that ride along it.

Zonal flow

The jet stream runs nearly west to east



Meridional flow

The jet stream becomes wavy, moving south to north. When the jet stream is just off the Jersey Shore, like it was in March, the storm track favors coastal storms riding up the northeast coast.



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