



The Illinois Institute of Diving

Nitrox Class



Nitrox Classes are conducted 2 to 3 times a month or if you have 2 or more students, schedule your own class date & time!

Classes are 2 evenings during the week (Monday & Wednesday most months) from 6:30-9:30 pm and Saturday from 8:00am till 3:00 pm. We also provide training at your location for private groups. Call for rates.

Cost: \$199 per person

**Includes instruction, text/workbook, handouts and 10% Off Gear for One Year Special.
Class size: 2-8.*

What is "Enriched Air" Nitrox?

We are hearing a lot about enriched air or Nitrox these days. But, what is it? Simply speaking, enriched air is air with additional oxygen (or reduced nitrogen). Air, as you know from your open water course, is made up of Oxygen (21%) and Nitrogen (79%). If you take air and either add oxygen or remove some of the nitrogen you have what is being called "enriched air" or "enriched air Nitrox". Enriched air being used by sport divers can range from 22% to 40% oxygen. The rest is Nitrogen. Since the amount of nitrogen in the gas is reduced, it is safer air.

Why use Enriched Air?

Some divers will never need or want to use enriched air; others find that they enjoy the extra time it allows them at depth; still others report that after a day of diving with enriched air they feel better and more energetic than they do after diving with air. Enriched air allows you more bottom time because it has less nitrogen. The extra bottom time is especially welcome in mid-depth ranges and when making more than one dive a day. Many resort locations are starting to make enriched air available to divers certified in its use. We can now stretch our under-water vacation time and have less fatigue. Many instructors are beginning to use enriched air for themselves during open water training. They say that after a long day and several dives they feel better when they have been breathing enriched air instead of ordinary air.

Isn't Enriched Air only for deep dives?

Enriched air is definitely not for deep dives. Its greatest use is for diving at moderate depths. In fact, enriched air cannot be used for deep diving because the higher oxygen content can be toxic at depth. This is its major limitation. A large part of enriched air diver training is spent learning how to safely cope with this restriction.

Isn't Enriched Air only for technical and commercial divers?

No. Actually, enriched air in the 22 % to 40% oxygen range used by sport divers is not used much in technical and commercial diving. Very deep diving, at depth, requires the use of a mix with a lower oxygen percentage, such as "tri-mix". While technical and commercial divers do use various Nitrox mixes for decompression, most of their decompression is usually done with 80% or 100% oxygen in less than 20 feet of water.

What certification is required to use Enriched Air?

NAUI or T.D.I. Enriched Air Diver certification or the equivalent. The specialty course, Enriched Air Diver, is designed to teach you the procedures for safe, recreational non-decompression diving with enriched air. I.A.N.T.D. certification are also available.

Can existing Scuba equipment be used with Enriched Air?

Yes. Tanks only need to be specially marked only when filled with safer air. This label also indicates the depth limit and other information.

Do I have to have my tanks Oxygen cleaned?

That depends upon the method that the dive center uses for filling tanks. Some dive centers require that tanks be oxygen cleaned annually when used with enriched air, due to the tank filling methods which they use. At Sea Jewels, we use a permeable membrane system, which DOES NOT require tanks to be oxygen cleaned. A permeable membrane system ensures the safety of both divers and dive center staff by eliminating the hazards of handling pure oxygen, and reducing our customer's tank maintenance expenses.

Are Enriched Air fills expensive?

Enriched air fills are slightly more expensive than air fills, but the total cost is less per minute because of expanded no decompression time and shorter surface intervals.

Ask the staff at The Illinois Institute of Diving for complete details.

ENRICHED AIR COURSE

The Illinois Institute of Diving offers the T.D.I. & NAUI Nitrox course, Enriched Air Diver, to any certified open water diver. The enriched Air Diver course includes one classroom session, one textbook/workbook and one quiz. Two optional open water training dives are available. Classroom sessions are conducted right here at IID.



The Illinois Institute of Diving

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Open: Monday thru Friday 9:00am - 8:00pm Saturday 9:00am - 5:00pm ~ Closed Sunday

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