Weather Message Net Quick Start Guide Version 4

The following guide will take you through the process to install and set up Weather Message. It is broken down into two sections, Software Installation and Alarm Setup.

This guide provides only the basic setup. Each software application contains windows based help. Pressing the F1 key or clicking the Help, Weather Message Help option will display detailed information about the respective application.

Software Installation

- 1. Begin by installing the Weather Message software.
 - a. If you received a CD, insert it in your CD drive, you will then be presented with a menu. Select Weather Message to begin the installation.
 - b. If you are downloading the software from the website, download the full installation and select open when the file is downloaded.
- 2. When the installation program starts, you will be presented with the following screen.



3. Click the **Next** button to start the installation.

🧏 Weather Message Net 4.0 Setup				
License Agreement Please review the license terms before installing Weather Message Net 4.0.				
Press Page Down to see the rest of the agreement.				
LICENSE AGREEMENT I. LICENSE GRANT. Weather Message Software LLC, hereafter referred to as Grantor, grants you a non-exclusive license to use the software known as WxMesg, or Weather Message, hereafter referred to as Software. II. DISCLAIMER OF WARRANTY. Software is provided on an "AS IS" basis, without warranty of any kind, including without limitation the warranties of merchantability, fitness for a particular purpose and non-infringement. The entire risk as to the quality and performance of the Software is borne by you. Should the Software prove defective, you and not Granter assume the entire cost of any service and renair. In addition, the				
If you accept the terms of the agreement, select the first option below. You must accept the agreement to install Weather Message Net 4.0. Click Next to continue.				
 I accept the terms of the License Agreement I do not accept the terms of the License Agreement 				
Weather Message Setup - 4.0 < Back Next > Cancel				

4. Read the license agreement and click on the **I accept the terms in the License Agreement** button. Then click the **Next** button.

🧏 Weather Message Net 4.0 Setup					
Installation Options Select your install type.				₩ ×	
Install for yourself, or a	anyone who uses	; this			
Current User	۲				
Everyone	\odot				
Weather Message Setup - 4,0 -		< Back	Next >	Cancel	

5. If you want Weather Message to be available to everyone that logs into this computer, select **All Users**. Click **Next**. *Note:* You must be logged in as an Administrator to use this option.

🤟 Weather Message Net 4.0 Setup						
Choose Components Choose which features of Weat	Choose Components Choose which features of Weather Message Net 4.0 you want to install.					
Check the components you want to install and uncheck the components you don't want to install. Click Next to continue.						
Select components to install:	 ✓ Weather Message Server ✓ Weather Message Service Controller ✓ Weather Message Clients 					
Space required: 86.5MB						
Weather Message Setup - 4,0 —	< Back Next >	Cancel				

6. Select the components that you want to install, by clicking in the box to the left of the program. We recommend that you select all of the programs. After selecting the components, click **Next.**

🧏 Weather Message Net 4.0 Setup	_ D X
Choose Install Location Choose the folder in which to install Weather Message Net 4.0.	W×
Setup will install Weather Message Net 4.0 in the following folder. To install in folder, click Browse and select another folder. Click Next to continue. Destination Folder	a different
C:\Program Files\WxMesgNet	owse
Space required: 86.5MB Space available: 196.5GB Weather Message Setup - 4,0 < Back Next >	Cancel

 The installation program will default the installation directory to "C:\Program Files\WxMesgNet". Unless you have a reason to change this directory, accept the default setting by clicking Next.

🧏 Weather Message Net 4.0 Setup	
Program Start Options Select your start options.	W X
Automatically Start Weather Message Server	
Automatically Start Message Client	
Automatically Start WxMap	
Automatically Start WxRadar	
Automatically Start Service Controller	
Weather Message Setup - 4,0	Cancel

8. If you want Weather Message to automatically start when you log into the computer, select the components to automatically start. After making these selections, Click **Install**. You will see an installation screen showing the progress of the installation.

Note: You may be prompted to reboot your computer after the installation program updates your system files.

Note: Weather Message Net requires the Microsoft .Net 4.0 runtime files. If you do not have them installed on your computer, the install program will alert you to this fact and automatically download and install them from the Microsoft.com.

When the installation is complete, the installation program will prompt you to click the **Finish** button. After clicking the finish button, the installation program will close. You have now successfully installed Weather Message on your computer.

Software Setup

 After the software has been installed, you will need to setup a few options before you are ready to receive weather messages. Click Start, Programs, Weather Message, Weather Message Server Setup.



2. Weather Message Server Setup will start. You will see this screen.

🤟 Weather Message Setup							
File Support	: Setup Help						
TCP/IP Port Ingest Path Data Path Graphics Path Alarm File #	9501 c:\WxMesgNet\WxData\ C:\WxMesgNet\WxData\ C:\WxMesgNet\WxData\	NRxFiles WxText WxGraph	Ingest Engine Emwin Serial Emwin Internet Emwin So/De	Weather Wire NoaaPort NWS CAP	2		
Product	State	County(s)	Pager Group(s)	Email Group(s)	Fat		
► ??????			None	None	Nor		
•	III		Save	<u>Exit</u>	ŀ		

3. You will need to select the Ingest Engine that you will use to receive the EMWIN data. The program defaults to Emwin Internet. If you will be receiving data using your serial port, select Emwin Serial.

Click **Save** to save your settings. The program will ask you if it is ok to create the directories. Answer **Yes**. The setup program will now terminate.

4. If you will be using the serial ingest follow these steps, otherwise skip to step 5:

a. Click Start, Programs, Weather Message, Ingest, and WxEmwin. You will see this screen.

📡 WxEmwin - EMWIN Ingest Eng	gine	_ D X			
File Receiver Status Help					
Serial Ingest TCP/IP Receiver/1	TCP/IP Receiver/2	Internet Ingest			
Processing File	Block Fil 2 of 2 2	le Size 048			
Port Com19	Packet Length	1			
Total Blocks 1754	Bad Header	0			
Bad Blocks 2	Check Sum	1			
Error Percent 0.1	Block Count	1			
Receiving graphic or compressed	file. Unable to display c	ontents.			
Serial port Com19 opened.					

The program may or may not be receiving data. Regardless continue with these steps.

b. Click File then Setup.

WxEmwin Setup				
Serial Ingest TCP/IP Ingest - 1 TCP/IP Ing Receiver Type WX-14 Enabled Comm Port 19 Baud Rate 19200,N,8,1 H	gest - 2 Internet Ingest Common Ingest Paths ackup Options Comm Port None ▼ Baud Rate 19200,N,8 ▼ Switch Back Time 10 Internet Backup Error Rate Greater 10			
<u>Save</u> <u>Cancel</u>				

- c. On the setup screen, select the communications port that you will be using to receive the data. This is normally 1 or 2.
- d. Select the Baud Rate for your device.
 - 1. If you are using a satellite dish, select the default 19200,8,N,1.
 - 2. If you are using a 1200 baud demodulator, select 1200,N,8,2.
- e. **Save** these settings. If the program asks to create directories, go ahead and answer **Yes** to those prompts.
- f. Exit this program.

Note: Some computers may detect your satellite receiver as a serial mouse. This generally occurs when the satellite receiver is turned on when booting the computer. If this occurs, your mouse will begin to move on it's own. To correct this problem, turn off the satellite receiver. Download the comdisable tool from Microsoft at this web address http://support.microsoft.com/default.aspx?scid=kb;en-us;819036.

5. You are now ready to start Weather Message Server. On you desktop, click the *Weather Message Server* icon.



This will start the Weather Message Server. The Server will automatically start the ingest engine you selected earlier. You will see them both running in your system tray.



- 6. Start the Weather Message Client by clicking on the *Weather Message Client* icon on your desktop.
- 7. Start the Weather Message Map by clicking on the *Weather Message Map* icon on your desktop.
- 8. You should now start seeing text messages arrive in the Message Client window.
- The software is now in the default configuration. This configuration will receive and process all of the messages received. You will want to reconfigure the alarms for your area. To do this Click Start, Programs, Weather Message, Weather Message Server Setup. See the Alarm Setup section of this document for quick overview of alarm setup.
- 10. For additional information, click Help and Weather Message Help to view the documentation.

Alarm Setup

Before you can begin to setup alarms for your local area, you need to know the Weather Forecast Office (WFO) in charge of your area. Weather Message uses the three-character WFO abbreviation to alarm messages. For example the WFO for Tallapoosa County, Alabama is Birmingham. The Birmingham WFO's abbreviation is BMX.

The easiest way to get your WFO abbreviation is to use WxMap. Start WxMap and locate your county. You may have to Zoom In / Out so you can see your county. Use the F11 key

to zoom in and the F12 key to zoom out. After locating your county, right click on the county and select "County Information". Here is an example for Monroe, Indiana.



The abbreviation for the WFO covering Monroe, Indiana is **IND**. This information will be used when you setup your alarms.

Alarms are used in Weather Message to tell the program which weather products or messages that you want to process. They are generally broken down into four categories; 1) Alarms for the Map, 2) Alarms for the Message Client, 3) Alarms for Paging, Emailing and Faxing and 4) Alarms for graphic products. The following discussion will focus on each of these categories. It is important to note that one alarm could address all four categories.

The weather products or messages created by the National Weather Service have a four to six-character product identifier. This identifier is generally referred to as the AWIPS identifier. AWIPS is the software that the NWS uses to create weather products or messages. The following is an example of a typical tornado warning weather product.

WFUS54 KBMX 301326 TORBMX ALC113-301400- /O.NEW.KBMX.TO.W.0054.050430T1326Z-050430T1400Z/
BULLETIN - EAS ACTIVATION REQUESTED TORNADO WARNING NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE BIRMINGHAM AL 826 AM CDT SAT APR 30 2005
THE NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE IN BIRMINGHAM HAS ISSUED A
* TORNADO WARNING FOR SOUTHERN RUSSELL COUNTY IN SOUTHEAST ALABAMA
* UNTIL 900 AM CDT
* AT 823 AM CDTNATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE DOPPLER RADAR INDICATED A SEVERE THUNDERSTORM CAPABLE OF PRODUCING A TORNADO 8 MILES SOUTHWEST OF GLENVILLEOR ABOUT 11 MILES NORTHWEST OF EUFAULA MOVING NORTHEAST AT 55 MPH.
* OTHER LOCATIONS IN THE WARNING INCLUDE BUT ARE NOT LIMITED TO PITTSVIEWSEALEHOLY TRINITY AND FORT MITCHELL.
HEAVY RAINFALL MAY OBSCURE THIS TORNADO. TAKE COVER NOW! IF YOU WAIT TO SEE OR HEAR IT COMINGIT MAY BE TOO LATE TO GET TO A SAFE PLACE.
TO REPORT SEVERE WEATHER CALL 1-800-856-0758.

The AWIPS identifier is located on the second line of the message. The different parts of the message are shown in the following graphic.



For most messages, the first 3 characters of the AWIPS identifier is the product type. The last 3 characters are the WFO abbreviation. Now that you have a basic idea and format of a

weather product we can discuss the most common alarms. The following list contains the most common warning / watch product identifiers:

- TOR Tornado Warning
- SVR Severe Thunderstorm Warning
- FFW Flash Flood Warning
- WOU Tornado and Severe Thunderstorm Watch
- FFA Flash Flood Watch
- WSW Winter Storm Watch / Warning
- CEM Civil Emergency

Note: Weather Message uses the special product code WRN to cover TOR, SVR and FFW. This cuts down on the number of alarms that need to be established.

Most weather products / messages can be selected by state and county. These messages have a Universal Geographic Code (UGC) line that contains the county codes associated with the weather products. As you setup your alarms, you will need to decide if you want a message alarmed for your whole state or specific counties.

Alarms for WxMap: Alarms setup for WxMap normally cover an entire state or group of states. In this example, we will setup the watch and warning products for Indiana.

These alarms will be needed:

Product	State	Counties
WRN???	IN	Any County
WOU?	IN	Any County
FFA???	IN	Any County
WSW???	IN	Any County

Note: For this example, we want to also send these watch / warning products to Message Client.

Start Weather Message Setup. You can click on **Start**, **Programs**, **Weather Message**, **Weather Message Server Setup**, or from Weather Message Server click File then Setup.

You will find the default alarms on the setup screen. You can remove these existing alarms by right clicking on the alarm and selecting delete. When you finish you will have a screen that looks like this.

W	🧏 Weather Message Setup							
Γ	File	Support	Setup	Help				
TCP/IP Port 9501 Ingest Path c:\WxMesgNet\WxData\ Data Path C:\WxMesgNet\WxData\ Graphics Path C:\WxMesgNet\WxData\ Alarm File # 1		esgNet\WxData\RxFi esgNet\WxData\Wx esgNet\WxData\Wx0	iles Text Graph	Ingest Engine Emwin Serial Emwin Internet Emwin So/De	Weather Wire NoaaPort NWS CAP			
		Product		State	County(s)	Pager Group(s)	Email Group(s) Fa	
	•			11			4	
						<u>S</u> ave	<u>E</u> xit	

We will start to enter the first alarm by right clicking inside the grid and selecting Add. Enter the first alarm as shown.

New Alarm - WRN???	×
List Products List Forecast Offices List States	
Alarm Client/Map/X10 Email Paging/Fax Archive/H	Html/Exe/Print Notes
Product WRN??? Tornado, Thunder	rstorm, Flash Flood Warning, etc All Offices
States Counties	
Indiana Alaska Alaska Adams Alabama Allen West Atlantic Ocear Bartholomew Northwest Atlantic C Benton Image: Im	INC000 ▲ Set ⊻TEC INC003 Set Area INC005 Set Wind
Match Text Exclude Text	RegEx 🔲 RegEx 📄 Alarm Active 📝
	Save Cancel

You will notice that ??? was used as the WFO identifier. This is done because the state has more than one WFO issuing messages. Weather Message supports the wild card character "?" to match any character in the position that the question mark appears.

After entering the product identifier, state and selecting any county, click on the Client / Map option. Change the To Client and To Map options to Yes. This indicates to the program that you want this product sent to the Message Client and WxMap.

New Alarm - WRN???	×
List Products List Forecast Offices List	States
Alarm Client/Map/X10 Email Paging/Fax	Archive/Html/Exe/Print Notes
To Client Yes ▼ Alarr To Map Yes ▼	n Type Alarm type is used to play sounds and/or control printing.
X10 Settings House Code Unit 1 Command Unit 2 Duration 0 Unit 4	Unit 5 Unit 9 Unit 13 Unit 6 Unit 10 Unit 14 Unit 7 Unit 11 Unit 15 Unit 12 Unit 16 Unit 16 Unit 16 Unit 8 Unit 12 Unit 16 Uni
	Save Cancel

Now click **Save** to save this alarm. Repeat these steps for the remaining alarms. Your setup screen should look like the following.

W	🤟 Weather Message Setup							x
	File Support Setup Help							
TCP/IP Port Ingest Path Data Path Graphics Path Alarm File #		9501 c:\WxMesgNet\WxData\RxFiles C:\WxMesgNet\WxData\WxText C:\WxMesgNet\WxData\WxGraph		Ingest Engine Emwin Serial Emwin Internet Emwin So/De] Weather Wire] NoaaPort] NWS CAP Alarm # 1	1		
		Product		State	County(s)	Pager Group(s)	Email Group(s)	Fa
	Þ	WRN???		IN	INC000	None	None	Nor
		FFA???		IN	INZ000	None	None	Nor
		WSW???		IN	INZ000	None	None	Nor
	•							۶.
						<u>S</u> ave	<u>E</u> xit	

This gets the basic warning products setup for all counties in the state. If you only want specific states, you can select them from the list on the alarm setup window.

Each WFO also issues a number of other products. Since IND covers the area we are using for an example, an alarm will be setup to alarm all text products.

New Alarm - ???IND	
List Products List Forecast Off	ices List States
Alarm Client/Map/X10 Email	Paging/Fax Archive/Html/Exe/Print Notes
Product ???IND	All Products WFO Indianapolis, IN
States Co	Set <u>V</u> TEC
West Atlantic Ocean Northwest Atlantic C Arkansas	Set <u>A</u> rea Set <u>W</u> ind
Match Text Exclude Text	RegEx RegEx Alarm Active
	<u>Save</u> <u>Cancel</u>

You will notice that no state or county was selected in this case. This will insure that you receive all products issued by the IND WFO. This alarm is only going to get sent to the Message Client, so the To Client option is set to Yes.

New Alarm - ?	??IND			x
List Produc	ts List Forecast O	ffices List States		
Alarm Clie	nt/Map/X10 Email	Paging/Fax Archive	/Html/Exe/Print Notes	
To Client To Map	Yes No	✓ Alarm Type ▼	 Alarm type is used to play sounds and/or control printing. 	
X10 Set House Comma Duratio	tings Code v nd v n 0	Unit 1 Unit 5 Unit 2 Unit 6 Unit 3 Unit 7 Unit 4 Unit 8	5 Unit 9 Unit 13 6 Unit 10 Unit 14 7 Unit 11 Unit 15 8 Unit 12 Unit 16	
			Save Cano	cel

The EMWIN data stream contains a number of graphical products. This alarm is setup to receive those graphics.

New Alarm - GRAPHI	
List Products List Forecast	Offices List States
Alarm Client/Map/X10 Ema	il Paging/Fax Archive/Html/Exe/Print Notes
Product GRAPHI	Graphics File All Offices
States	Counties
Alaska	Set <u>V</u> TEC Set <u>A</u> rea Set <u>W</u> ind
Match Text Exclude Text	RegEx 📃 RegEx 🦳 Alarm Active 🔽
	<u>Save</u> <u>Cancel</u>

Weather Message using the AWIPS identifier "GRAPHI" to identify and alarm all graphic products. You do not select a state for graphics. Set the To Client option to "Yes".

Receiving all products: If you want to receive all of the products on EMWIN, you can setup an alarm with the Product Identifier "?????" and set the To Client option to "Yes". This will send every received product to the Message Client. This option is sometimes useful to learn about the different weather products.

For additional information about alarm setup and the many other options available with Weather Message, please click Help and Weather Message Help in this setup program.