

Customer Bulletin

Best Practices for Pausing Irrigation on WeatherTRAK Controllers

What is the best way to pause irrigation on WeatherTRAK controllers for events?

HydroPoint recommends using the Event Pause feature to pause controllers for events. An alternative is putting the controller into OFF mode, but the controller will still perform the daily electrical valve test. See Setting Controller Mode to OFF, Shutdown or Winterize.

Event Pause

The WeatherTRAK Event pause feature allows users to pause irrigation for a user defined period. The user simply enters the event pause start and end time in WeatherTRAK.net on the Manage page (see Figure 1) and sends the event down to the controller. The controller will stop or pause all irrigation operations, including the daily valve test. If stations are in Auto mode, those stations will continue to accumulate depletion during the event pause.

Event pauses can be scheduled in the future down to the 30-minute time period and can last many days. Since event pauses are a scheduled task, they can also be set as a one-time event, or as a recurring event.

User can also schedule event pauses across multiple WeatherTRAK controllers at the same time (see figure 2). Simply go to the Controllers page under Smart Irrigation tab, select the desired controller to pause. Then select “Scheduled Task – Event Pause” under the Advanced menu next to the Send Rain Pause button. A dialog box will appear which can be configured for the desired event pause time and duration.

Firmware version Required: LC and Pro3 require version 7.2 or later. Pro2 and Pro2 SWM require version 6.8 or later

Figure 1 – Event Pause detail screen on Manage page

Figure 2 - Event Pause detail screen on Controller List page

What is the best way to pause irrigation on WeatherTRAK controllers for rain?

HydroPoint recommends using the User-defined Rain Pause feature to pause controllers for rain if the user wants to proactively pause the controller or if the controller is not connected to a rain switch. This feature is available at the controller, WeatherTRAK.net and WeatherTRAK Mobile app. See below for details on User-Defined Rain Pause. Note: The rain pause value counts down a day at the Program A start-time (this is a changed from midnight in version 7.2 and 6.X).

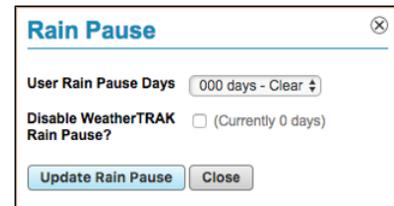
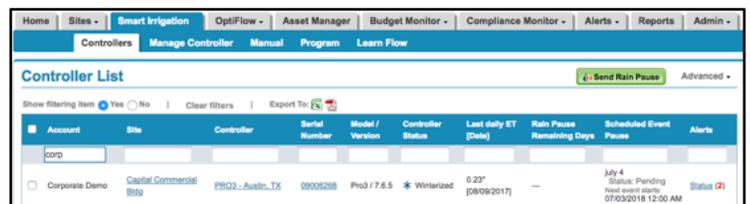


Figure 3 - Set Rain Pause on Manage Controller Page

User-Defined Rain Pause

The user-defined rain pause is designed to allow users to immediately pause WeatherTRAK controllers and keep them pause for a specific number of days. WeatherTRAK controllers will count down the rain pause day at the Program A start time. If a user sets a 1 day rain pause before the Program A start time, the controller immediately stops all irrigation until the Program A start time.



Account	Site	Controller	Serial Number	Model / Version	Controller Status	Last daily ET [Data]	Rain Pause Remaining Days	Scheduled Event Pause	Alerts
Corporate Demo	Capital Commercial Bldg	Pro3 - Austin, TX	00000208	Pro3 / 7.6.5	Winterized	0.23" [08/09/2017]	--	July 4 Status: Pending Next event starts: 07/03/2018 12:00 AM	Status (2)

Figure 4 - Set Rain Pause on multiple controller on Controllers page

Users can set a rain pause at the controller through the rain pause MENU or in WeatherTRAK.net on the Manage Controller page (see Figure 3). Users can also set a rain pause on multiple controllers on the Controller List page by selecting the desired controllers to pause and selecting the Rain pause button (see Figure 4). The user then determines the number of days to pause.

Firmware Version Required: LC and Pro3 require version 7.2 or later. Pro2 and Pro2 SWM require version 6.8 or later

WeatherTRAK®

What is the best way to pause irrigation on WeatherTRAK controllers for winter or long non-irrigation periods?

HydroPoint recommends using the Winterize off mode to pause controllers for winter or other long non-irrigation periods. Also, after placing the controller into winterize, users should set the depletion values to zero. When the controller is in winterize mode, stations in Auto mode will not accumulate depletion, ensuring that when the controller resumes normal operation it will generate a reasonable schedule. This feature is available at the controller (be sure you have the latest firmware version), WeatherTRAK.net and WeatherTRAK Mobile app.



Figure 5 - Set Controller Mode on Manage Controller page

Setting Controller Mode to OFF, Shutdown or Winterize.

If the WeatherTRAK controller is turned OFF or put in Winterize or Shutdown mode, all irrigation immediately stops and future irrigation is paused indefinitely. This feature allows users to change the controller mode from Off, Winterize or Shutdown to On via WeatherTRAK.net or the WeatherTRAK Mobile app as long as the controller has the required firmware version. In all off modes, the controller will stop or pause all irrigation operations, but continue to run the daily valve test. If stations are in Auto mode, those stations will continue to accumulate depletion while in OFF or Shutdown mode. While the controller is in Winterize mode, Auto mode stations will not accumulate depletion. Shutdown mode is intended to help control unmitigated flow on an irrigation line with a normally open master valve. In Shutdown mode, the controller will attempt to energize a normally open master valve. The Shutdown mode should not be used as a long term off mode since long term continuous power to a solenoid may cause premature solenoid failure.

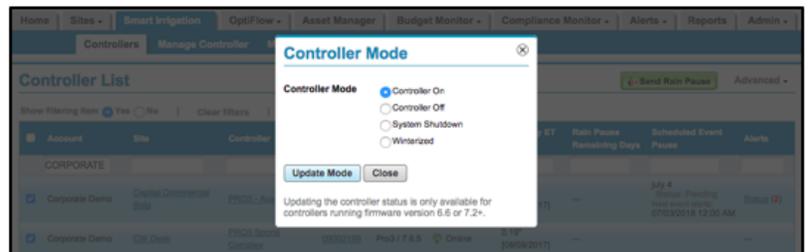


Figure 6 - Set Controller Mode on multiple controller on Controller page

Setting the controller mode can be accomplished in WeatherTRAK.net on the Manage Controller page, simply select the Edit button, set the desired mode and press Update Mode (see Figure 5). This can also be accomplished across multiple controller on the Controllers page by selecting the desired controllers and selecting Update Controller Mode under the Advanced Menu (see Figure 6).

Firmware Version Required: Off is supported in all firmware versions. Shutdown and Winterize require version 7.2 on LC and Pro3 and version 6.8 on Pro2 and Pro2 SWM.

Should I disconnect to the valve common wire to pause irrigation?

NO. Users should never disconnect the valve common wire on a WeatherTRAK controller. Due to built-in diagnostics which look for a broken or disconnected common-wire the controller still provides power to the valve solenoids and they may operate.