

How to use WeatherDisplay's built-in cron for the HomeWeatherStationAPI

We will use **WDapi** "for short" for the HomeWeatherStation-API as available in WeatherDisplay. Check the **WDapi-upload** document to "unhide" the setup window in WeatherDisplay if not done already.

Question: Why do we want to use cron-jobs?

To speed things up as multiple files needs to be loaded from multiple locations. And sometimes the wait-time can be annoying if we let the template scripts themselves do the downloading of the files. Below a screenshot (of the bottom part) of WDapi pop up box in WeatherDisplay.

Cron Jobs for 'I design' Template

Update This Station Cron php every 10 minutes
http://www.yoursite.com/pwsWD/w34_cron_stationcron.php

Update This Forecast Cron php every 60 minutes

Update this Cron URL at 23:58
http://www.yoursite.com/pwsWD/w34_cron_addtoyear.php

Update this Cron URL at 00:00
http://www.yoursite.com/pwsWD/w34_cron_empty.php

For now you should set the station cron.

It will run every ten minutes (will be changed to every 5 minutes in a next release) Every run the cron-script will check which third-party files will become "to old" within the next 5 or 10 minutes. And it will then download new versions of all those soon obsolete files.

Examples of such files: your DarkSky forecast, METAR, maybe your Air-quality sensor data a.s.o.

The only things you have to do:

1. Type the name `w34_cron_stationcron.php` of the cron script which is already installed on your website: It should look like this: https://www.yoursite.com/pwsWD/w34_cron_stationcron.php

2. Set a mark in the select box

Now **Click the OK button** at the top of the pop-up, not visible in the image above. Now let WeatherDisplay do its job and it will run the script every so many minutes.

Other cron-jobs

If you are using a SQL database to store your weather-data you will need the bottom two cron-jobs.

3. + 4. There is one to save the high-lows of "todays data" at the end of the day

The name of that script is `w34_cron_addtoyear.php`

That script will run some minutes before midnight and copy the high-lows of today to the "thisyear" and "thismonth" files.

5. + 6. And one to clean the database from "todays data" when a new day start.

There is also a "once/every/hour" cron, which can be used when the frequency of some cron-jobs needs to be lowered. But in most cases there is no real need to use that cron.