# C85845V4 FAQS

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## **AC Power**

- ✓ The design of this weather station is to use AC power (5-volt) as primary power source.
- ✓ When operating with the AC power cord, the backlight can be on continually.
- ✓ When operating on AC power, batteries are optional and are not required in the weather station.
- ✓ Replacement AC adapter: Look on the back of the clock for the appropriate AC adapter number. It is important to use the correct AC adapter on all electronic devices.
- ✓ The backlight will turn off or operate at high or low intensity at your discretion.

## **Batteries**

Explanation: Many problems are resolved with fresh batteries of the appropriate voltage. Many items sent in under warranty work when tested with fresh batteries. Batteries manufactured this year will have an expiration date 10 years (or more) in the future. Battery technology has improved and batteries will maintain voltage longer in storage. However, the environment the batteries reside in for the 10 years can deplete the power.

- ✓ Use Alkaline or Lithium batteries in the outdoor sensor.
- ✓ A minimum voltage of 1.48V for each battery is necessary for proper performance.
- ✓ Use batteries dated at least six years in advance of the current year. Batteries dated earlier than six years from now may still work, but may be unstable in performance.
- ✓ Good name brand batteries make less noise, which reduces the chance of RF (radio frequency) interference from the battery compartment.

# **Weather Station Factory Restart**

**Explanation:** The factory restart returns the weather station and outdoor sensor to an "out-of-the-box" default state and often resolves an issue.

## **Factory Restart:**

- 1. Remove all power (batteries and AC) from outdoor sensor and weather station.
- 2. Press one of the buttons on the weather station at least 20 times to clear all memory.
- 3. Verify that the weather station is blank before proceeding (there may be lines painted on the screen that will show when there is no power).

- 4. Leave both units without power for 15 minutes (very important).
- 5. Insert the AC power cord into the wall outlet then into the weather station.
- 6. Insert fresh batteries into the outdoor sensor.
- 7. Press the TX button on the outdoor sensor to transmit RF signal.
- 8. Keep the outdoor sensor 5-10 feet from the weather station.
- 9. When RF connection is established, the temperature will appear on the station. Allow the outdoor sensor and weather station to sit together for 15 minutes to establish a strong connection.
- 10. Do not press buttons for 15 minutes.
- ✓ For optimum 433MHz transmission, place the outdoor sensor no more than 330 feet (100 meters, open air) from the weather station.
- ✓ See the section on mounting and distance/resistance/interference for details on mounting the outdoor sensor.

# **Outdoor Temperature Sensor**

## Compatible Outdoor sensors

- ✓ The TX141TH-**Bv3** outdoor sensor comes packaged with this weather station.
- ✓ The TX141TH-A, TX141TH-B (all versions) are compatible.

## **Quick Connect**

**Explanation:** Use the quick connect for a weather station and outdoor sensor that have been working but lost connection due to interference or low batteries. This is not the same as a thorough factory reset.

- Bring the outdoor sensor and weather station together inside, and place the units 5-10 feet apart with nothing between them.
- 2. Hold the **TEMP** button for 5 seconds. The outdoor temperature area will flash.
- 3. Remove battery cover from the outdoor sensor and press and release the TX button to send the signal.
- 4. Wait for 2 minutes for the outdoor temperature to appear on the weather station.
- ✓ Factory Restart: If the above procedure does not work, please try the factory reset.

# Outdoor Temperature Signal Strength

**Explanation:** The weather station will search for the outdoor temperature/humidity sensor for 3 minutes after installing batteries or after holding the **TEMP** button for 3 seconds.

- ✓ Hold the TEMP button for 3 seconds to search for the outdoor temperature/humidity sensor.
- ✓ The strength signal icon will animate until the sensor signal is received, or for 3 minutes if no signal available.

## Dashes show for Outdoor Temperature

**Explanation:** Dashes mean the connection is lost between the weather station and the outdoor sensor.

- ✓ Batteries often resolve the connection.
- ✓ <u>Distance/Resistance</u> can cause loss of connection between the outdoor sensor and the weather station.
- ✓ Turn the weather station 90 degrees towards the outdoor sensor to provide better reception. This allows more antenna surface to face the outdoor sensor signal.
- ✓ Try the <u>quick connect</u> or <u>factory restart</u>.

# Power Requirements

- ✓ 2-AA batteries power the outdoor sensor.
- ✓ We recommend Alkaline batteries for the outdoor sensor.
- ✓ You may choose to use Lithium batteries for temperatures below -20°F/-28.8°C.

## Inaccurate Outdoor Temperature Reading

**Explanation:** High outdoor temperature readings are generally a location issue. Low outdoor temperature readings are power related or a sensors going bad.

- ✓ The outdoor sensor reads the environment where it is mounted. When mounted inside the home, it will read inside temperature/humidity.
- ✓ When the outdoor sensor reads high during the day, but not at night, it is a
  positioning problem.
- ✓ Look for heat sources such as sunlight, door or window frames or reflected heat. **Side-by-side test:** Place the outdoor sensor right next to the weather station for 2

**Side-by-side test:** Place the outdoor sensor right next to the weather station for 2 hours.

- ✓ Compare indoor and outdoor temperature. The temperatures should be within 4 degrees to be within tolerance.
- ✓ If the outdoor sensor reads correctly when next to the weather station, try a different location outside.

## Intermittent Outdoor Temperature

**Explanation:** Intermittent problems are the hardest to resolve. RF (radio frequency) communication may come and go occasionally. This can be normal in some environments (e.g. moister climates). If outdoor sensor signal is lost, please wait 2-4 hours for the signal to reconnect on its own.

- ✓ Move the outdoor sensor to a closer location.
- ✓ <u>Distance/Resistance</u> can cause loss of outdoor sensor signal.
- ✓ Check Batteries.

**Freezer test:** Confirm the weather station is reading the correct outdoor sensor (not a neighbor's sensor). Place the outdoor sensor in the freezer for an hour and watch the temperature drop on the weather station.

**Indoor distance test:** Please complete the <u>Restart</u> with outdoor sensor and weather station 5-10 feet apart and inside to establish a strong connection.

- ✓ After 15 minutes, if there is a reading in the outdoor temperature area, move the outdoor sensor to another room with one wall between the outdoor sensor and the weather station.
- ✓ Observe to see if the temperature remains on consistently for 1 hour.
- ✓ If the temperature remains on while in the house, then it is likely a distance/resistance issue.
- ✓ Move the outdoor sensor to different locations outside to find a location where the temperature reading will hold.

# Outdoor Temperature is stuck or HH.H, LL.L

**Explanation:** These symbols are error messages indicating the outdoor sensor is outside of its readable range.

- ✓ Check <u>Batteries</u>. Overpowered or underpowered batteries can cause this reading.
- ✓ Replace outdoor sensor.

**Note:** The last outdoor reading may remain (not change) for 30 minutes when connection is lost. The outdoor temperature reading will flash when the connection is first lost or intermittent.

## Outdoor sensor drains batteries quickly

- ✓ Test a new set of alkaline batteries. Write down the date of installation and the voltage of the batteries.
- ✓ When the batteries fail, please note the date and voltage again.
- ✓ Check the <u>distance</u> and <u>resistance</u> between the outdoor sensor and weather station. Outdoor sensors at the end of the range may work while batteries are fresh but not after they drain a bit.
- ✓ Check for leaking batteries, which may damage the outdoor sensor.
- ✓ Battery life is over 24 months when using reputable battery brands for both Alkaline and Lithium batteries.

## Outdoor Humidity goes to dashes when temperature is cold.

- ✓ The outdoor temperature/humidity sensor designed to work with this weather station may drop the outdoor humidity and dew point reading in cold temperatures.
- ✓ The humidity and dew point will return when the temperature rises. This is how the sensor came from the factory. The temperature itself will continue to read.

# Outdoor sensor fell. The sensor no longer works

**Explanation:** If there is no physical damage to the outdoor sensor, the fall may not have caused internal damage. A fall can shock the outdoor sensor or the batteries in the outdoor sensor. Batteries that have fallen on a hard surface may be damaged and unable to function properly.

- ✓ Complete a <u>Restart</u> with fresh batteries.
- ✓ Use <u>Batteries</u> dated at least six years in advance of the current year. Batteries dated earlier than six years from now may still work, but may be unstable in performance.

**Note:** An outdoor sensor that has fallen into puddle, snow, or other standing water, will likely have water damage and need replacement. Outdoor sensors are water resistant, not waterproof.

## Replacement Outdoor sensors

✓ Visit your local Retailer or La Crosse Technology® Store http://store.lacrossetechnology.com/

**Note**: Be sure to order the correct model and frequency to avoid receiving the incorrect item.

✓ Call La Crosse Technology® Store at 608-785-7939 or e-mail from the store website if you are unsure about the correct item to order. Each item carries the original new product warranty and includes access to La Crosse Technology® technical support.

# Temperature/Humidity Trend Arrows

**Explanation:** The temperature trend indicators update with every 15 minutes and look back over the past hour.

- ✓ Change in temperature (2°F / 1°C)
- ✓ Change in humidity (3% RH)
- √ 1 hrs. comparison which changes on every 1/4 hour

E.g.: At 1:00 - compare to 12:00 data; at 1:15 -compare to 12:15: at 1:30 - compare to 12:30 ..... etc.

**UP Arrow:** Temperature or humidity has risen in the past hour. **DOWN Arrow:** Temperature or humidity has fallen in the past hour.

# HI/LO Temperature readings

**Explanation:** The weather station shows the daily HI and LO temperatures each day starting at midnight (12:00 AM). The weather station automatically resets the HI/LO temperatures at midnight (12:00 AM).

From normal display, press and release the **TEMP** button to view:

- ✓ HI indoor and outdoor temperature/humidity records.
- ✓ LO indoor and outdoor temperature/humidity records.
- ✓ Outdoor Heat Index.
- ✓ Outdoor Dew Point.

## Heat Index/Dew Point

#### **Heat Index:**

- ✓ Heat Index combines the effects of heat and humidity.
- ✓ Heat Index is what the temperature feels to a human being.
- ✓ As humidity increases, the body is unable to cool effectively.
- ✓ The temperature will feel warmer.

#### **Dew Point Temperature:**

- ✓ Dew Point Temperature is the saturation point of the air, or the temperature to which the air has to cool in order to create condensation.
- ✓ The higher the dew points, the higher the moisture content of the air at a given temperature.

## Mounting/Positioning Outdoor sensor

First: Place the outdoor sensor in the desired shaded location and the weather station in the home. Wait approximately 1 hour before permanently mounting the outdoor sensor to ensure that there is proper reception.

#### **POSITION**

#### **Outdoor:**

- ✓ Protect the outdoor sensor from standing rain or snow and from the overhead sun, which can cause it to read incorrectly.
- ✓ Mounting under an eave or deck rail works well.
- ✓ If you choose, you can construct a small roof or box for the outdoor sensor. Be sure a box has vents.
- ✓ Mount the outdoor sensor on the North side where to prevent sun from causing. incorrect readings.
- ✓ Mount at least 6 feet in the air for a strong RF (radio frequency) signal.
- ✓ Do not mount the outdoor sensor on a metal fence. This significantly reduces the effective range.
- ✓ Outdoor sensors are water resistant, not waterproof.
- ✓ Mount outdoor temperature sensor vertically.
- ✓ Avoid more than one wall between the outdoor sensor and the weather station.
- ✓ The maximum transmitting range in open air is over 330 feet (100 meters).
- ✓ Obstacles such as walls, windows, stucco, concrete and large metal objects can reduce the range.
- ✓ Do not mount near electrical wires, transmitting antennas or other items that will interfere with the signal.
- ✓ RF (radio frequency) signals do not travel well through moisture or dirt.

#### **MOUNT**

## Option 1:

- ✓ Install one mounting screw (not included) into a wall.
- ✓ Place the outdoor sensor onto the screw (hanging hole on the backside).
- ✓ Gently pull down to lock the screw in place.

#### Option 2:

- ✓ Insert the mounting screw through the front of the outdoor sensor and into the wall.
- ✓ Tighten the screw to snug (do not over tighten).

## Position Weather Station

- ✓ The weather station has a pull out stand to sit on a desk or table or can be wall mounted.
- ✓ Place within range of the outdoor sensor.
- ✓ The maximum transmitting range in open air is 330 feet (100 meters).

- ✓ Choose a location 6 feet or more from electronics such as cordless phones, wireless gaming systems, televisions, microwaves, routers, baby monitors, etc., which can prevent signal reception.
- ✓ Be aware of electrical wires and plumbing within a wall. This will interfere with RF (radio frequency) signal reception.

## Distance/Resistance/Interference

#### Distance:

- ✓ The maximum transmitting range in open air is over 330 feet (100 meters) between the outdoor sensor and the weather station. This range is in open air with ideal conditions.
- ✓ Consider what is in the signal path between the weather station and the outdoor sensor.
- ✓ Avoid placing electronics in the signal path between the weather station and the outdoor sensor.

#### Resistance:

- ✓ Obstacles such as walls, floors, windows, stucco, concrete and large metal objects can reduce the range.
- ✓ When considering the distance between the outdoor sensor and the weather station (330 feet open air), cut that distance in half for each wall, window, tree, bush or other obstruction in the signal path.
- ✓ Closer is better.
- ✓ Windows reflect the RF (radio frequency) signal.
- ✓ Metal absorbs the signal and reduces the range.
- ✓ Stucco has a metal mesh that absorbs the signal.
- ✓ Do not mount the outdoor sensor on a metal fence. This significantly reduces the effective range.

## Interference:

- ✓ Consider items in the signal path between the outdoor sensor and the weather station.
- ✓ Sometimes a simple relocation of the outdoor sensor or the weather station will correct the interference.
- ✓ Windows can reflect the radio signal.
- ✓ Metal will absorb the RF (radio frequency) signal.
- ✓ Stucco has a metal mesh that absorbs signal.
- ✓ Avoid transmitting antennas: (ham radios, emergency dispatch centers, airports, military bases, etc.)
- ✓ Electrical wires (utilities, cable, etc.)
- ✓ Vegetation is full of moisture and reduces signal.
- ✓ It is difficult for RF (radio frequency) signal to travel through a hill.

# **Temperature Alerts**

**Explanation:** First, you will arm the alert you wish to set, then you set the alert value. If an alert is not armed (OFF), you will skip that alert value and move to arm the next alert.

## **Alert Setting Order:**

- Outdoor HIGH Temperature ON/OFF
- Outdoor HIGH Temperature Value
- Outdoor LOW Temperature ON/OFF
- Outdoor LOW Temperature Value
- Outdoor HIGH Humidity ON/OFF
- Outdoor HIGH Humidity Value
- Outdoor LOW Humidity ON/OFF
- Outdoor LOW Humidity Value
- Indoor HIGH Temperature ON/OFF
- Indoor HIGH Temperature Value
- Indoor LOW Temperature ON/OFF
- Indoor LOW Temperature Value
- Indoor HIGH Humidity ON/OFF
- Indoor HIGH Humidity Value
- Indoor LOW Humidity ON/OFF
- Indoor LOW Humidity Value

Note: When no HI or LO Temperature Alert is set, OFF will show.

#### **Set Alerts:**

- 1. Hold, then release the **ALERTS** button to enter alert set mode.
- 2. Press and release the +/- buttons to arm (ON) the alert if you wish to set it (leave alert OFF to skip and move to next alert).
- 3. When the alert is armed (ON) press and release the **ALERTS** button to move to the alert value.
- 4. Press and release the +/- buttons to adjust alert values.
- 5. Press and release the **ALERTS** button to confirm & move to the next alert.
- 6. Press the **BACKLIGHT** button at any time to exit settings.

## **Weather Station**

# 12-Hour or 24-Hour time format

- ✓ Time can display in 12-hour (am, pm) or 24-hour format.
- ✓ Default is 12-hour time
- ✓ Use the Program Menu to switch time formats.

## Fahrenheit/Celsius

✓ Use the <u>program menu</u> to switch between Fahrenheit and Celsius.

## Backlight

- ✓ When operating with the power cable, the backlight is adjustable: HI-LOW-OFF.
- ✓ Press and release the BACKLIGHT button to adjust backlight.
- ✓ When operating on batteries only, the backlight will come on briefly when the BACKLIGHT button is pressed.

**Battery power:** When operating on battery power only, press and release the any button and the backlight will show for 10 seconds.

Try this exercise in a dim room. The weather station has a bright, dim and OFF setting for the backlight. Wait 15 seconds after pressing the **BACKLIGHT** button to see if backlight stays on. This will assure it is not in OFF SET.

- 1. Check that the AC cord is inserted correctly to the weather station and the outlet.
- 2. Remove the batteries.
- 3. Press the **BACKLIGHT** button. If the backlight comes on and the display is active your AC cord works.
- Wait 15 seconds to see if the back light stays on.
- If the backlight goes out after 15 seconds, repeat #3.

## Dashes, HH.H, LL.L or stuck Indoor Temperature/Humidity

**Explanation:** These symbols are error messages indication the indoor sensor is outside of its readable range. For indoor readings, this is generally a power related issue.

- ✓ Check that the AC power cord is inserted into a working outlet.
- ✓ <u>Batteries</u> may be overpowered or underpowered. Remove batteries from the weather station.
- ✓ Press any button 20 times. Leave the weather station unpowered for 1-2 hours.
- ✓ Install fresh Alkaline batteries with correct polarity.
- ✓ If the indoor temperature is still shows dashes, HH.H or LL.L, the weather station may need replacement.

## Inaccurate Indoor Temperature Reading

**Explanation:** When the indoor temperature is inaccurate, it is often due to the location of the display or overpowered/under powered batteries. You can test the accuracy at you home.

**Side-by-side test:** Bring the outdoor sensor in the house and place it next to the weather station for 2 hours.

- ✓ Compare indoor and outdoor temperature. The temperature should be within 4 degrees to be within tolerance.
- ✓ Look for heat sources such as sunlight, door or window frames or reflected heat or cold near the weather station.

**Check** <u>batteries</u> and AC power cord.

## Set Time Alarm

Alarm will be active when alarm time is set.

- 1. Hold the **ALARM** button for 3 seconds to enter alarm settings.
- 2. The HOUR will show.
- 3. Press the +/- buttons to adjust.
- 4. Press **ALARM** to confirm and move to the minutes

- 5. The MINUTES will show.
- 6. Press the +/- buttons to adjust.
- 7. Press **ALARM** to confirm and exit settings.

#### Activate/Deactivate time alarm

- ✓ The alarm is active when set.
- ✓ Press and release the **ALARM** button to view alarm time. Then press and release the **ALARM** button to deactivate or activate the alarm.
- ✓ The alarm icon (bell) will show when active.

#### Snooze Alarm

- ✓ When the alarm sounds, press the **SNOOZE** button to silence the alarm for 10 minutes.
- ✓ The snooze icon Zz will flash.
- ✓ Press any button except SNOOZE to silence the alarm for 24 hours.

## No WWVB Tower Icon

- ✓ The forecast station has not received a WWVB time signal in the past 24-hours.
- ✓ Position the forecast station for better reception.
- ✓ Be sure you have good batteries in the forecast station.
- ✓ Hold the SET button to send the forecast station on a signal search at night.
- ✓ Allow up to 5 nights to receive the time signal.

## Time is inaccurate

- ✓ Check to see if the WWVB Tower icon appears on the forecast station. If not, the forecast station has not received a WWVB time signal in the past 24-hours.
- ✓ Reposition the forecast station with the front or back facing Colorado.
- ✓ Check that the Time Zone selected correctly reflects your location. Adjust the time zone in the Program Menu.
- ✓ Check that the DST indicator is correct for your location (most areas observe DST) so this should be ON). Adjust the DST indicator in the Program Menu.

## Manually Set Time/Date: Program Menu

- Hold, then release the SET button to enter time set SET.
- Press and release the + or buttons to adjust the values. Hold to adjust guickly.
- Press and release the **SET** button to confirm and move to the next item.
- Press and release the **BACKLIGHT** button any time to exit settings.

## **Settings order:**

- Language
- Beep ON/OFF
- Atomic ON/OFF
- Time Zone

**Note:** When Español is selected, instructions will be in Spanish.

- DST ON/OFF
- 12H/24H
- Hour
- Minutes
- Year
- 10.Month
- 11.Date
- 12.Fahrenheit/Celsius

## To Begin:

- 1. Hold the **SET** button for five seconds to enter settings SET.
- 2. ENGLISH will show for language. Press the + or button if you want ESPANOL. Press **SET** to select BEEP ON/OFF.
- 3. BEEP ON will show. Press the + or button to select BEEP OFF and silence the beep when buttons are pressed. Press **SET** to select ATOMIC ON/OFF.
- 4. ATOMIC ON will show. Press the + or button to select ATOMIC OFF if you do not want the atomic time signal.

**Note:** If ATOMIC OFF is selected, you will skip Time Zone and DST settings and move 12/24 hour time.

- 5. Press **SET** to select Time Zone. ZONE EST will show. Press the + or button to select a different time zone. (AST=Atlantic, EST=Eastern, CST=Central, MST=Mountain, PST=Pacific, AKT=Alaska, HAT=Hawaii)
- 6. Press **SET** to select DST On/OFF.
- 7. DST ON will show. Press the + or button to select DST OFF if you do observe Daylight Saving Time. Press **SET** to select 12/24 hour time format.
- 8. 12H will show. Press the + or button if you prefer 24 hour time format. Press **SET** to select Hours.
- 9. The Hour will show. Press the + or button to adjust the hour. Press **SET** to select the Minutes.
- 10. The Minutes will show. Press the + or button to adjust the minutes. Press **SET** to select the Year.
- 11. The Year will show. Press the + or button to adjust the year. Press **SET** to select the Month.
- 12. The Month will show. Press the + or button to adjust the month. Press **SET** to select the Date.
- 13. The Date will show. Press the + or button to adjust the date. Press **SET** to select Fahrenheit/Celsius.
- 14. The °F will show. Press the + or button to select Celsius. Press **SET** to confirm and exit.

## Comfort Indicators

- ✓ Indoor and Outdoor comfort charts inform you when the humidity is at a comfortable or uncomfortable level.
- ✓ The bar over the chart will move and change colors to indicate the humidity level.

## Forecast Icons Inaccurate

#### THIS WEATHER STATION LEARNS OVER TIME!

Please allow 7-10 days for barometer calibration to generate an accurate forecast.

**IMPORTANT:** As the Weather station builds memory, it will compare the current average pressure to the past forty day average pressure for increased accuracy. The longer the Weather station operates in one location, the more accurate the forecast icons will be.

**Weather Forecast Icons:** This Weather station has six forecast icons that predict the weather condition of the next 12-hours based on the change of atmospheric pressure. The weather forecast is about 70-75% correct. As weather conditions cannot be 100% correctly forecasted we are not responsible for any loss caused by an incorrect forecast.

- ✓ Sunny (clear)
- ✓ Partly Cloudy
- ✓ Cloudy
- ✓ Stormy
- ✓ Rainy
- ✓ Snowy (temp below 32 °F)

The icons forecast the weather in terms of getting better or worse and not necessarily sunny or rainy, as each icon indicates.

## Weather station is dim

- ✓ Press and release the BACKLIGHT button to determine if the backlight is on HIGH or LOW.
- ✓ Clock must operate on AC power for backlight to stay on.

## Weather station is blank: No letters, numbers or dashed lines

- ✓ Check that the AC adapter. Is it correctly installed and connects to an active outlet.
- ✓ <u>Batteries</u> may be overpowered or underpowered. Remove batteries from alarm clock.
- ✓ Press any button 20 times. Leave the alarm clock unpowered for 1-2 hours.
- ✓ Power clock with AC adapter only to determine if batteries were an issue.

## Weather station has missing segments

**Explanation:** When parts of numbers, letters, or pictures are missing on the display, it is often power related.

- ✓ Check that the AC adapter. Is it correctly installed and connects to an active outlet.
- ✓ <u>Batteries</u> may be overpowered or underpowered. Remove batteries from alarm clock.
- ✓ Press any button 20 times. Leave the alarm clock unpowered for 1-2 hours.
- ✓ Power clock with AC adapter only to determine if batteries were an issue.