

XTRA SMART[™] Wireless Weather Sensor System Installation and Setup Guide

Introduction

The XTRA SMART[™] Wireless Weather Sensor system is designed exclusively for your Toro EC·XTRA[™] indoor model timer to continuously monitor and adjust automatic watering to suit current watering needs.

The Wireless Sensor system consists of a remote Weather Sensor that detects current sunlight level, temperature and rainfall, then transmits this information wirelessly to the Smart Pod[™] plugged into the ECXTRA timer. The Smart Pod then adjusts the running time to provide the optimum amount of water required for the next scheduled sprinkler operation.

To familiarize yourself with XTRA SMART Weather Sensor system, take just a few moments to read through this guide in its entirety.

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Weather Sensor Feature Overview



1. Rain Sensor Test Pin

Pressing the test pin simulates operation of the Rain Sensor by transmitting a signal to the Smart Pod.

2. Rain Sensor Adjustment Cap

The Rain Sensor sensitivity is adjustable to suspend watering at $\frac{1}{3}$, $\frac{1}{4}$, $\frac{1}{2}$ and $\frac{3}{4}$ " (3 mm, 6 mm, 12 mm and 19 mm) of accumulated rainfall.

3. Solar Collector

Solar radiation and temperature are used by the Smart Pod to calculate and adjust watering to suit current weather conditions.

4. Battery Compartment

A 9V Alkaline battery (installed) can provide Weather Sensor operation up to five years. *Note:* See battery service information on page 9 for additional information.

5. QuickClip[™] Mounting Bracket

The QuickClip[™] bracket design enables the Weather Sensor to be easily installed and aligned.

6. Antenna

Smart Pod Feature Overview



1. Antenna

2. EC·XTRA Timer Connector

The Smart Pod is connected securely to the EC·XTRA timer by inserting the connector plug into the special receiver port, located on the right (facing) side of the timer housing.

3. Enter Button

Pressing the Enter button transfers the watering schedule, downloaded to the Smart Pod from the Scheduling Advisor™ PC program, to the ECXTRA timer. In addition, the sensor bypass mode is toggled On and Off with the Enter button.

4. LED Indicators

All Weather Sensor system functions and status conditions are identifiable through various operating combinations of the red \bigotimes and green \Longrightarrow indicators.

Note: See the *Smart Pod Indicator Reference Table* provided on page 12 for detailed information.

5. USB Cable – The provided USB cable is used to transfer the custom watering schedule, created in the Scheduling Advisor™ PC program, to the Smart Pod.

Scheduling Advisor and Smart Pod Setup

Note: Prior to installing and testing the Weather Sensor system, the **Scheduling Advisor**[™] program must be downloaded from **www.ecxtra.com**, installed and running on your PC.

- 1. On the ECXTRA web page, locate the **Download New Scheduling Advisor** box in the lower left corner, then click **Learn More** to begin the download process.
- 2. Install the **Scheduling Advisor** program on your PC as prompted by the Installer Wizard.
- 3. A shortcut icon **m** will be placed on the Windows desktop during program installation. Click on the icon to open the **Scheduling Advisor** program.
- 4. When the program opens, select the **New Schedule** option. The **Scheduling Advisor** will guide you through the watering schedule setup process.

Important: Entering your ZIP code is required, as it directs the **Scheduling Advisor** to retrieve historic weather data from the internet for your specific ZIP code area.

Based on the data collected, the **Scheduling Advisor** generates a default watering schedule tailored for the highest water demand rate expected for the year.

The Weather Sensor system then continuously monitors and adjusts the watering run time to suit current weather conditions and watering demand.

Note: Due to variables associated with internet connectivity, the **Scheduling Advisor** may require multiple attempts to access and retrieve the required weather data.





- 5. When your watering schedule has been completed, the file will be automatically saved to the PC hard disk.
- 6. Connect the Smart Pod to the PC using the provided USB cable.

Note: The USB connection to the Smart Pod is confirmed when the green *sindicator is On. The Scheduling Advisor displays* **Smart Pod Recognized,** and switches the **Pod** symbol from black to green.

- Click on Send Schedule to begin transferring the watering schedule to the Smart Pod. The green sindicator will blink rapidly during the transfer process.
- 8. A confirmation box will be displayed when the transfer process has been successfully completed. Click **OK** to continue, then disconnect the USB cable.
- With the EC·XTRA control dial in the RUN position, carefully plug the Smart Pod into the timer receptacle as shown. The red
 and green
 indicators will blink in unison.
- 10. Press and release the ENTER button to begin transferring the watering schedule to the EC·XTRA. The green indicator will blink momentarily, and the timer will display donE when the transfer process is complete.

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Important: The **ENTER** button **must** be pressed within two minutes of the initial Smart Pod/ECXTRA connection to accomplish the watering schedule transfer. If the two-minute period elapses without pressing the **ENTER** button, remove the Smart Pod, then repeat steps 9 and 10 above.

Pairing the Smart Pod and Weather Sensor

Note: The Smart Pod must be initially paired (matched) to the Weather Sensor to enable wireless communication. The pairing process helps prevent the Smart Pod from receiving unwanted signals from other wireless devices operating within the system reception range.

- 1. Press and hold the Smart Pod ENTER button until the red 🐼 and green 🖛 indicators blink alternately.
- 2. Press the Rain Sensor test pin to signal to the Smart Pod. Signal reception and pairing is confirmed when the red indicator responds with a sequence of rapid blinking with intermittent On and Off.

Adjusting the Rain Sensor Threshold

The Rain Sensor is preset to suspend watering at $\frac{1}{4}$ " (6 mm) of accumulated rainfall. Three alternate settings of $\frac{1}{8}$ " (3 mm), $\frac{1}{2}$ " (12 mm) and $\frac{3}{4}$ " (19 mm) are provided. Prior to installing the Weather Sensor, adjust the threshold to the preferred setting as required.

Note: Increasing the threshold setting results in extending the length of timer required for the sensor to shut off or postpone watering during rain, as well as extending the dry-out period before scheduled watering will resume. In areas where heavy fog or mist is common, the ½" (3 mm) setting may not provide accurate rain detection, and is not recommended.

- 1. Turn the cap slightly, releasing it from the two retaining pins.
- 2. Adjust the cap to engage the pins at the preferred slot setting.

Installing the Weather Sensor

▲ Important: The Weather Sensor must have full exposure to sun, wind and rain, and must not be installed inside a rain gutter, or in any location where immersion, runoff, or contact with irrigation spray will occur. Avoid installation near a heat source, such as a heater vent or chimney. Also avoid installation near any large metal structure or high current-draw equipment that may generate signal interference. Ensure the antenna wire hangs unobstructed below the Weather Sensor.



Note: The communication range of the Wireless Weather Sensor system is 500' (152 m) LOS (line of sight). Some loss of range can be expected due to interference from obstacles in the signal path. Test the signal reception from the proposed installation site prior to mounting the Weather Sensor, as described in the following procedure.

- 1. Start a manual watering operation for a zone that can be seen from the proposed Weather Sensor location. Press and hold the Rain Sensor test pin to send a signal to the Smart Pod. If the signal is received, watering should shut off within a short time. If not, repeat the test from a slightly different location, until communication is established.
- 2. (A) For rain gutter installation: back the bracket thumbscrew out to clear the rain gutter edge. Holding the Weather Sensor in position, tighten the thumbscrew securely.

(B) For solid structure installation: remove the thumbscrew and secure the bracket using the provided stainless screws (or other appropriate stainless fasteners).



3. With the mounting bracket securely fastened, check the vertical alignment of the Weather Sensor. To adjust, loosen the phillips screw at the bracket joint, adjust to vertical, then tighten the screw securely.

Weather Sensor System Operations

The XTRA Smart Weather Sensor system provides two important elements of weather information to the EC-XTRA timer: *Rain/Freeze Hold*, and *Watering Schedule Management*.

• Rain/Freeze Sensor Feature

The Rain/Freeze sensor signals the Smart Pod to suspend automatic watering when it has detected a specified amount of rainfall, or the temperature drops to near-freezing. The red indicator will be On while automatic watering is suspended, and turn Off when the automatic watering schedule resumes.

Note: To bypass the Rain/Freeze sensor function while watering is suspended, press the **ENTER** button to select the **Sensor Bypass mode**. The red indicator will begin blinking, and watering operation will resume as scheduled. To return to sensor-controlled operation, press the **ENTER** button again.

▲ Important: Freeze sensors should always be used in conjunction with visual checks of the sprinkler system. While the Weather Sensor is designed to postpone watering when air temperature is detected near freezing, watering can still occur under certain conditions. For example, the air temperature may rise above the sensor shut-off point, while the temperature of the landscape and walkways remains below freezing. Or, a drop in air temperature may occur so rapidly, the sensor is unable to suspend scheduled watering in time. Watering in these conditions can result in icing!

Watering Schedule Management Feature

The EC-XTRA watering schedule is managed by the Weather Sensor system by continuously monitoring key weather conditions, and sending this information to the Smart Pod/EC-XTRA. The watering run time duration is evaluated and automatically adjusted up or down according to the current demand for irrigation. When an adjustment occurs, the percent symbol (%) is visible in the timer display. *Note: To view the actual % adjustment value, turn the EC-XTRA dial to Season Adjust. Refer to the EC-XTRA User's Guide for detailed Season Adjust feature information.*





Battery Service Information

In normal operating conditions, the Weather Sensor battery can last up to five years. A weak battery condition is indicated if the Smart Pod's green sindicator begins blinking slowly at a steady rate. A loss of communication can result from a weak battery condition, and is indicated when the green indicator is Off with an intermittent flash.

- Replacing the Battery
- 1. The battery is stored in the upper half of the sensor housing. To access the battery, release and remove the upper housing by twisting it clockwise.
- 2. Disconnect the battery wire clip. Remove and replace the used battery with a fresh 9V Alkaline battery. Reconnect the battery wire clip.
- 3. To reassemble the sensor housing, thread the antenna wire through the lower housing, exiting the center hole in the bottom grid.
- 4. Mate the two halves squarely, aligning the translucent dome above the mounting bracket.
- Turn the upper housing counterclockwise to securely engage the lower housing.
 Note: Properly discard the used battery as prescribed by the battery manufacturer.



Warranty Information

The Toro Company and its affiliate, Toro Warranty Company, pursuant to an agreement between them, jointly warrants, to the owner, against defects in material and workmanship for a period of one year from the date of purchase.

Neither The Toro Company nor Toro Warranty Company is liable for failure of products not manufactured by them even though such products may be sold or used in conjunction with Toro products.

During such warranty period, we will repair or replace, at our option, any part found to be defective.

Return the defective part to the place of purchase.

Our liability is limited solely to the replacement or repair of defective parts. There are no other express warranties.

This warranty does not apply where equipment is used, or installation is performed, in any manner contrary to Toro's specifications and instructions, nor where equipment is altered or modified.

Neither The Toro Company nor Toro Warranty Company is liable for indirect, incidental or consequential damages in connection with the use of equipment, including but not limited to: vegetation loss, the cost of substitute equipment or services required during periods of malfunction or resulting non-use, property damage or personal injury resulting from installer's negligence.

Some states do not allow the exclusion or limitation of incidental or consequential damages, so the above limitation or exclusion may not apply to you.

All implied warranties, including those of merchantability and fitness for use, are limited to the duration of this express warranty. Some states do not allow limitations of how long an implied warranty lasts, so the above limitation may not apply to you. This warranty gives you specific legal rights and you may have other rights which vary from state to state.

FCC Information: This equipment generates and uses radio frequency energy and if not installed and used properly, that is, in strict accordance with the manufacturer's instructions, may cause interference to radio and television reception. It has been type tested and found to comply with the limits for a FCC Class B computing device in accordance with the specifications in Subpart J of Part 15 of FCC Rules, which are designed to provide reasonable protection against such interference in a residential installation. However, there is no guarantee that interference will not occur in a particular installation. If this equipment does cause interference to radio or television reception, which can be determined by turning the equipment off and on, the user is encouraged to try to correct the interference by one or more of the following measures:

· Reorient the receiving antenna

- Relocate the irrigation controller with respect to the receiver
- Move the irrigation controller away from the receiver
- Plug the irrigation controller into a different outlet so that the irrigation controller and receiver are on different branch circuits.

If necessary, the user should consult the dealer or an experienced radio/television technician for additional suggestions. The user may find the following booklet prepared by the Federal Communications Commission helpful: "How to Identify and Resolve Radio-TV Interference Problems." This booklet is available from the U.S. Government Printing Office, Washington, DC 20402. Stock No. 004-000-00345-4 International: This is a CISPR 22 Class B product.

Weather Sensor: FCC ID: OF7WS9 • IC ID (Canada): 3575A-WS9

Smart Pod: FCC ID: OF7SP9 • IC ID (Canada): 3575A-SP9

Specifications

Smart Pod:

- 1.5" (3,8 cm) W x 4.75" (12 cm) H (over 2" [5,1 cm] antenna) x 0.75" (1,9 cm) D
- Mini USB cable receptacle
- Operating temperature range: 14° 104° F (-10° 40°C)

Weather Sensor:

- 2.75" (7 cm) W x 7" (17,8 cm) H (over 2" [5 cm] antenna) x 6.25" (15,9 cm) D (over 4" [10,2 cm] mounting bracket)
- 9V Alkaline battery
- RF reception range: 500' (152 m) LOS (line of sight)
- Operating temperature range: 14° 140° F (-10° 60°C)

PC System Requirements (minimum):

- •*Windows® 2000, Vista, XP or Windows® 7
- Microsoft® .Net 3.5 Framework
- USB 1.0 Port
- 900 MHz, Intel® or Pentium® Processor
- 64 MB RAM
- 200 MB Free Disk Space
- 1024 x 768 16-bit Color Monitor
- Windows-supported pointing device (e.g. mouse)
- Internet access

*Windows® and Microsoft® are registered trademarks of the Microsoft® Corporation in the United States and/or other countries. Intel® and Pentium® are registered trademarks of the Intel Corporation in the United States and or/other countries.

Smart Pod Indicator Reference Table

Red	Sreen	Weather Sensor System Status
Off	Off	Smart Pod not connected
Off	On	Smart Pod connected to computer USB
Off	On	Smart Pod connected to timer - normal mode
Blinking	Blinking (in unison with Red)	Smart Pod in data transfer mode – press ENTER button
Off	Blinking (rapidly)	Smart Pod transferring watering schedule to timer
Blinking	Blinking (rapidly)	Smart Pod in pairing mode – press Rain Sensor test pin
Blinking (rapidly)	On	Smart Pod receiving signal from weather sensor
Off	Off (with intermittent flash)	Smart Pod lost communication with weather sensor
On	On	Rain/Freeze Sensor On – watering suspended
Blinking	On	Rain/Freeze Sensor On - sensor in bypass mode
On	Blinking	Low battery condition – watering suspended
Off	Blinking	Low battery condition – normal mode
Blinking	Blinking (alternately with Red)	Low battery condition – sensor in bypass mode

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Toro is committed to developing and producing the highest quality, best performing, most dependable products on the market. Because your satisfaction is our first priority, we have provided the Toro Helpline to assist you with any questions or problems that may arise. If for some reason you are not satisfied with your purchase or have questions, please contact us toll free at 1-800-367-8676.

