

# US 1.66 Release Notes

## Weather Star XL



### Patch Overview

The Weather Channel US 1.66 Patch contains multiple enhancements and corrections to problems with the Weather Star XL units that are identified in these release notes. **In addition to the enhancements and corrections documented on the following pages, the Weather Star XL crawl password was also changed.** If you need to know the new crawl password, please call The Weather Channel Solution Center (800) 554-7354.

#### Patch Deployment

This patch will be deployed by satellite transmission to each Domestic Weather Star XL in the field. No assistance from the cable headend engineer is required.

During installation, viewers may temporarily experience one or more of the following anomalies:

- Screen briefly locks and jitters

- Ad tags display and end late
- Local Ad Crawl freezes during Local Forecasts
- Local Forecasts start and end late or are missed
- Screen flashes to pink/black, etc.
- Audio briefly not operational

#### Document Purpose

This document describes the items which the US 1.66 Patch corrects for the Weather Star XL units. Each item in the patch is described in terms of what the home viewer would see on a television screen.

#### Scope

The information in this document applies to US Weather Star XL units only. Corrections to any other unit types are not addressed in this document.

### Items Corrected:

<i>Awkward Format of Watch Expiration Time</i>	2
<i>Unnecessary Display of Gust Information</i>	2
<i>Needed New Daypart Forecast Product</i>	2
<i>Needed New Extended Forecast Product</i>	3
<i>Needed New Pollen Levels Tagging Product</i>	4
<i>First/Last Quarter Moon Icons were Reversed</i>	5
<i>Back-to-Back Tags Displayed Incorrectly</i>	5
<i>Needed a More Logical Flow to the Product Playlist</i>	5

### Test Environment Description

The US 1.66 patch was tested in The Weather Channel Quality Assurance Lab and verified to be working after applying the 1.66 patch. The QA lab is configured as follows:

#### Satellite Receivers

Standard Agile Omni Professional Channel 13  
Frequency 6500—Medium

Drake Earth Station Receiver (ESR 1255)  
Channel 13  
Frequency 3.960

#### Video Cipher

Wegener VideoCipherII Plus (model 2900)

#### Video Distribution Amplifier

Lenco PFM-300 (with PVA-350 cards)

#### Commercial Insertion Equipment

Channematic, Inc. Spotmatic Jr.  
Channematic, Inc. Moneymaker

**Solution Center**  
**(800) 554-7354**  
starops@weather.com

The Weather Channel Solution Center is staffed 7x24, 365 days a year to respond to any situation. We welcome any questions, suggestions, or comments on our products, services, and support.

# Items Changed in the US 1.66 Patch

## Awkward Format of Watch Expiration Time

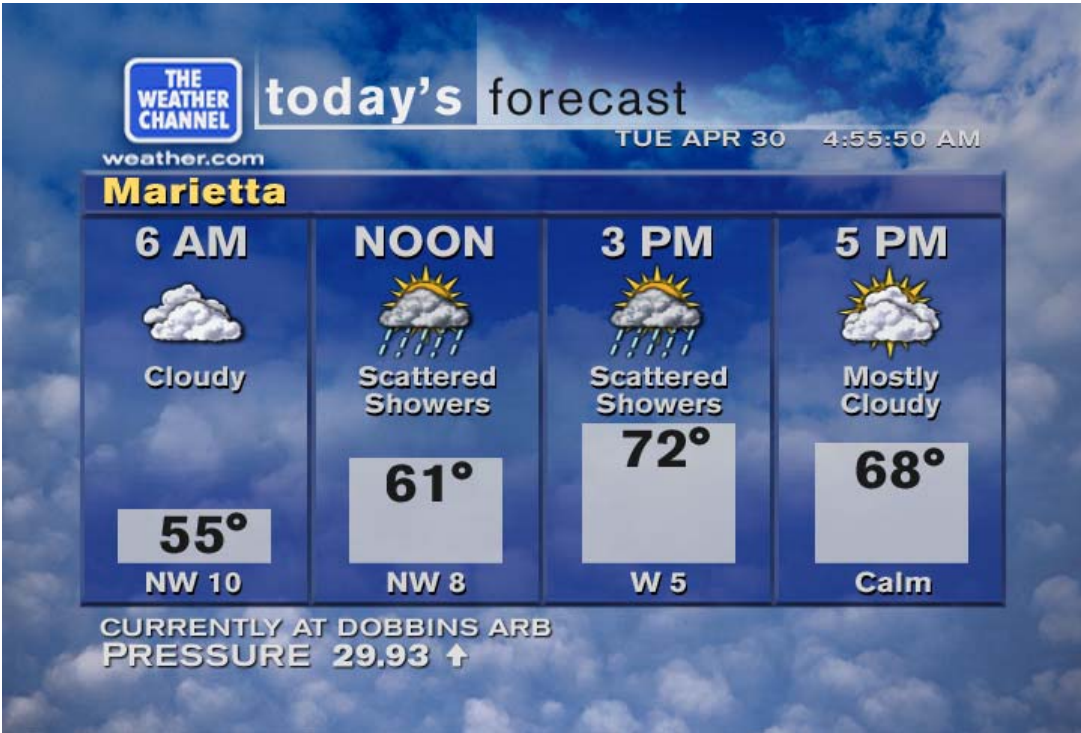
What You Saw Before . . .	What You See Now . . .
The expiration phrase in the crawl of a Severe Thunderstorm or Tornado Watch used the following format: "WED 0500 PM EDT"	The expiration phrase in the crawl of a Severe Thunderstorm or Tornado Watch now uses the following format: "5:00 PM EDT WEDNESDAY".

## Unnecessary Display of Gust Information

What You Saw Before . . .	What You See Now . . .
When there were no gusts or when no data was available, "Gusts None" would display on the lower 1/3 during the National Forecast.	Now when there are no gusts or when no data is available, nothing displays on the lower 1/3 during the National Forecast.

## Needed New Daypart Forecast Product

What You Saw Before . . .	What You See Now . . .
The Daypart Forecast is a new product for the Local Forecast segment.	The Daypart Forecast product is essentially a short-term bar graph-type weather forecast product. Weather forecast information (sky condition, temperature, and wind) and weather forecast icons are provided for multiple time periods within predefined periods or parts of the day. These forecast time periods advance as the parts of the day (dayparts) progress.



Daypart Forecast

# Items Changed in the 1.66 Patch (Continued)

## Needed New Extended Forecast Product

What You Saw Before . . .	What You See Now . . .
<p>The Extended Forecast would display the forecast for the next 3-5 days only.</p>	<p>The new Extended Forecast product displays the forecast for 7 days. From early morning to early afternoon, the first day of the forecast is the current day (today). From late afternoon through overnight, the first day of the forecast is the next day (tomorrow). The 7-Day Forecast does not completely replace the 3-5 Day Forecast. The 3-5 Day Forecast will display during most 90-second local weather segments (usually at the end). The new 7-Day Forecast will show in most 120-second local weather segments (usually at the end).</p>



**Extended Forecast (7-Day)**

## Items Changed in the 1.66 Patch (Continued)

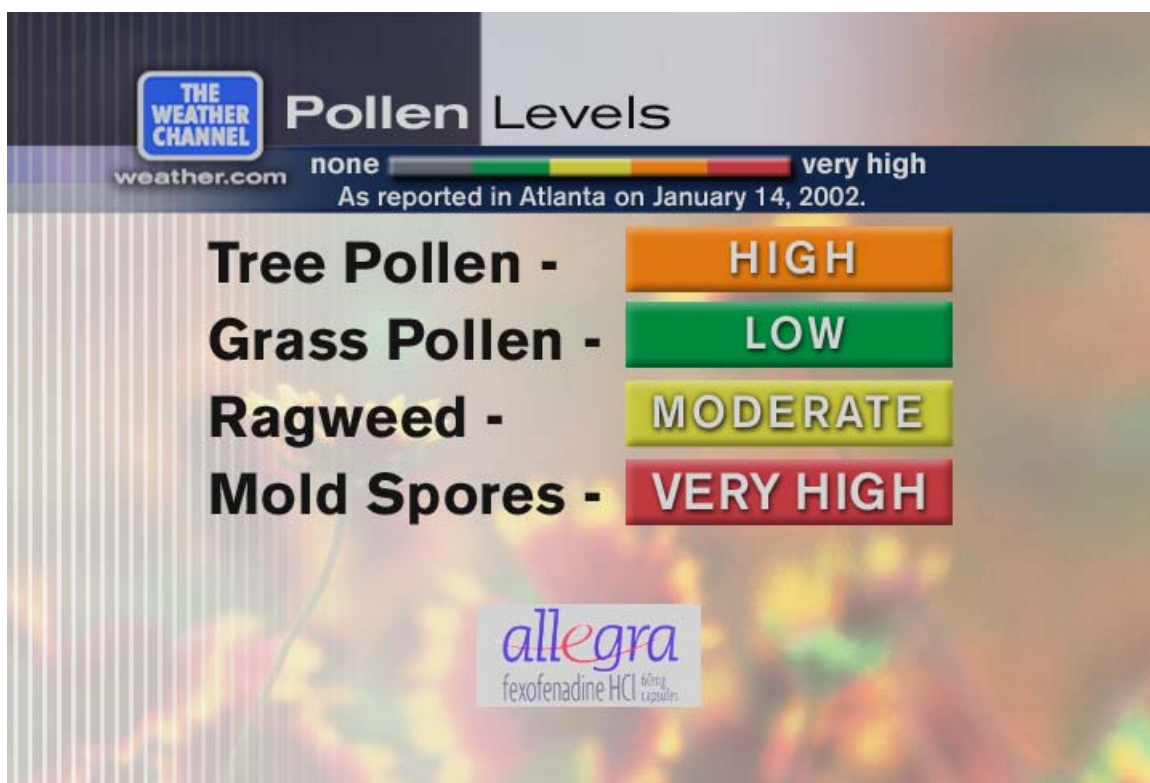
### Needed New Pollen Levels Tagging Product

#### What You Saw Before . . .

Pollen Levels is a new type of tagging product.

#### What You See Now . . .

The new Pollen Levels product displays either a local pollen level observation or a national pollen level observation. The local product displays a level indicator for each of the four defined pollen types (Tree, Grass, Ragweed, and Mold Spores), while the national product displays a pollen level contoured national map for only one type of pollen (the type will be determined based on seasonal information).



Pollen Levels



## Items Changed in the 1.66 Patch (Continued)

### First/Last Quarter Moon Icons were Reversed

#### What You Saw Before . . .

The first and last quarter moon phases on the Almanac page displayed incorrectly:

- The First Quarter moon icon was light on the left side in the Northern Hemisphere.
- The Last Quarter moon icon was light on the right side in the Northern Hemisphere.



#### What You See Now . . .

The first and last quarter moon phases on the Almanac page now displays correctly:

- The First Quarter moon icon is now light on the right side in the Northern Hemisphere.
- The Last Quarter moon icon is now light on the left side in the Northern Hemisphere.



### Back-to-Back Tags Displayed Incorrectly

#### What You Saw Before . . .

If any back-to-back tags were followed by back-to-back ad tags, the last ad tag event was appended to each of the preceding tag displays.

#### What You See Now . . .

If any back-to-back tags are now followed by back-to-back ad tags, all of the tag events display correctly.

### Needed a More Logical Flow to the Product Playlist

#### What You Saw Before . . .

The Radar loop was at the end of nearly every weather segment.

#### What You See Now . . .

The 90-second and 120-second length local segments now feature the Radar loop in the middle of the segment following the Current Conditions product.