

Weather

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An interface to weather information, primarily via the *Weather Underground* at the University of Michigan College of Engineering, Atmospheric, Oceanic, and Space Sciences (downwind.sprl.umich.edu). Sources include *Zephyr Weather Information*, *National Weather Service* forecasts for US cities and regions, ski reports, *Environment Canada* weather information, severe weather logs from the *National Severe Storms Forecast Center*, and earthquake reports from the *U.S. Geological Survey*.

The interface also fetches weather maps and taps other material from the National Center for Atmospheric Research in Boulder (ncar.ucar.edu), the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign (vmd.cso.uiuc.edu), labs at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology (everest.lcs.mit.edu, synoptic.mit.edu), the Solar Terrestrial Dispatch (xi.uleth.ca), the University of Washington (geophys.washington.edu), and Contel (duats.contel.com) which provides FAA flight planning and weather information.

The interface is a shell atop numerous ascii **telnet** and **ftp** services. The underlying menu and naming conventions may change; when they do, this interface may break. Try **telnet** from the menu to log in directly if necessary. Menu descriptions are in a file called "*menus*" in **Weather.app**; you can edit it in a pinch. Also, items under *Weather maps...* fetch maps by anonymous **ftp** from *unidata.ucar.edu* or *vmd.cso.uiuc.edu*. It takes a minute or two to fetch a map, and *one* mouse-click starts the process, so be patient. Pictures are stashed in */tmp/W_maps/...* and removed when you quit.

For weather nerds, a great deal of other information (pointers to mailing lists, information about auroral displays, anonymous **ftp** sites that archive weather data and discussions, penpals who like to chase tornadoes and talk about hailstones, *etc*) can be found under *Other weather information...*

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