

Backup archive of WeatherCat preferences file, by Dave13.

These instructions assume you are familiar with Carbon Copy Cloner, if you aren't then no worries, it is easy to quickly learn to use. Along with Carbon Copy Cloner there is a shell script to make the weekly preferences file backups.

Carbon Copy Cloner is available here: <https://bombich.com/>

Use of this procedure is at your own risk, I make no guarantees and am not responsible for any data loss.

My weather station Mac is running an older version of MacOS so it is using version 5 of Carbon Copy Cloner. Version 6 is now available for MacOS Catalina and newer, some of the screens will look a little different in it than my screenshots, but the setup procedures are the same.

Step 1 - Shell Script

Create a new plain text file, I use BBEdit but you can use TextEdit, just make sure the file is formatted in plain text.

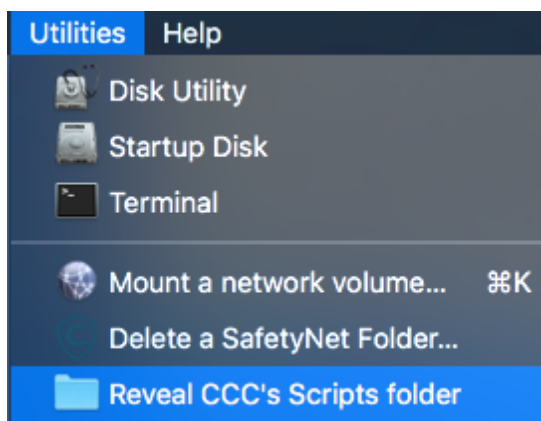
Copy/paste the following script:

```
#!/bin/sh
mv /Users/-username-/Documents/WC-pref-archive/com.trixology.weathercat.plist /Users/-
username-/Documents/WC-pref-archive/com.trixology.weathercat-$(date +%Y-%m-%d).plist
```

Replace -username- with the name of the home directory on your Mac.

Save the file on the desktop and name it "wx-pref-archive.sh".

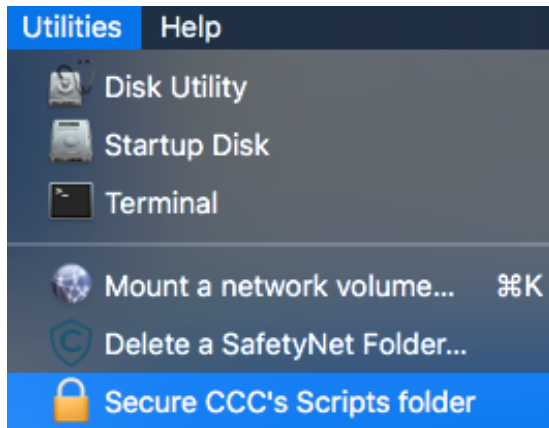
Go to Carbon Copy Cloner, in the menu click on "Utilities" and click on "Reveal CCC's Scripts folder".



A finder window will open, in there double-click the scripts folder.

Move the "wx-pref-archive.sh" file from the desktop into the scripts folder. You may get a prompt to enter username/password to allow it.

Close that finder window, go to Carbon Copy Cloner, in the menu click on “Utilities” and click on “Secure CCC’s Scripts folder”.

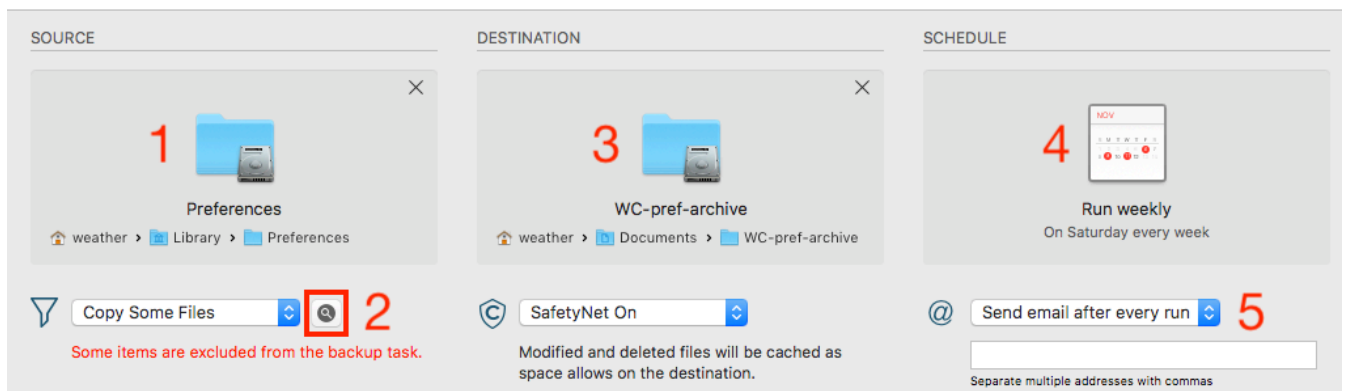


You should get a prompt to enter username/password to allow it.

Step 2 - Configure the Task Plan (backup job)

Create a folder named “WC-pref-archive” in the Documents folder.

In Carbon Copy Cloner, create a new task plan and set the following:



1. Click on the source box and click on “Choose a folder...”, navigate to /Users/-username-/Library and choose Preferences.

2. Select “Copy Some Files” and click the hourglass button, unselect all files then scroll down and select “com.trixology.weathercat.plist“, this is the preferences file most of us are familiar with.

3. Click on the destination box and click on “Choose a folder...”, select the “WC-pref-archive” folder in the Documents folder.

- Schedule the backup how often you would like to run it, I chose a weekly backup.
- Optional but very useful. Enter an email address or text address you would like to receive notifications when the backup completes. Email settings will need to be configured, it is similar to how it is setup in WeatherCat, I'll detail this in Step 3.
- In the "AFTER COPYING FILES" section, click the folder next to "Run a Shell Script".


WHILE COPYING FILES

- Use strict volume identification for the destination
- Protect root-level items on the destination
- Find and replace corrupted files: Every time the task runs

Troubleshooting Options

- Run a deletion pass first
- Don't update newer files on the destination
- Don't preserve permissions
- Don't preserve extended attributes

AFTER COPYING FILES

Run a Shell Script:  6

Destination volume: Do nothing


Run another task: Select a task

Power Management: Respect Energy Saver settings

Choose the "wx-pref-archive.sh" file, your "AFTER COPYING FILES" section should now look like this:

ADVANCED SETTINGS

BEFORE COPYING FILES

Run a Shell Script: 

Prune the SafetyNet: When free space is less than 25 GB Auto adjust


WHILE COPYING FILES

- Use strict volume identification for the destination
- Protect root-level items on the destination
- Find and replace corrupted files: Every time the task runs

Troubleshooting Options

- Run a deletion pass first
- Don't update newer files on the destination
- Don't preserve permissions
- Don't preserve extended attributes

AFTER COPYING FILES

Run a Shell Script: **wx-pref-archive.sh** X 

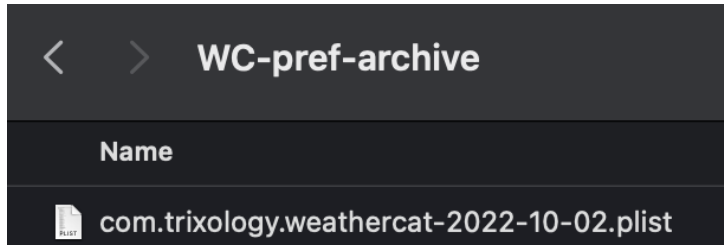
Destination volume: Do nothing

Run another task: Select a task

Power Management: Respect Energy Saver settings

Save the task plan and run it, the backup should take only a few seconds to complete.

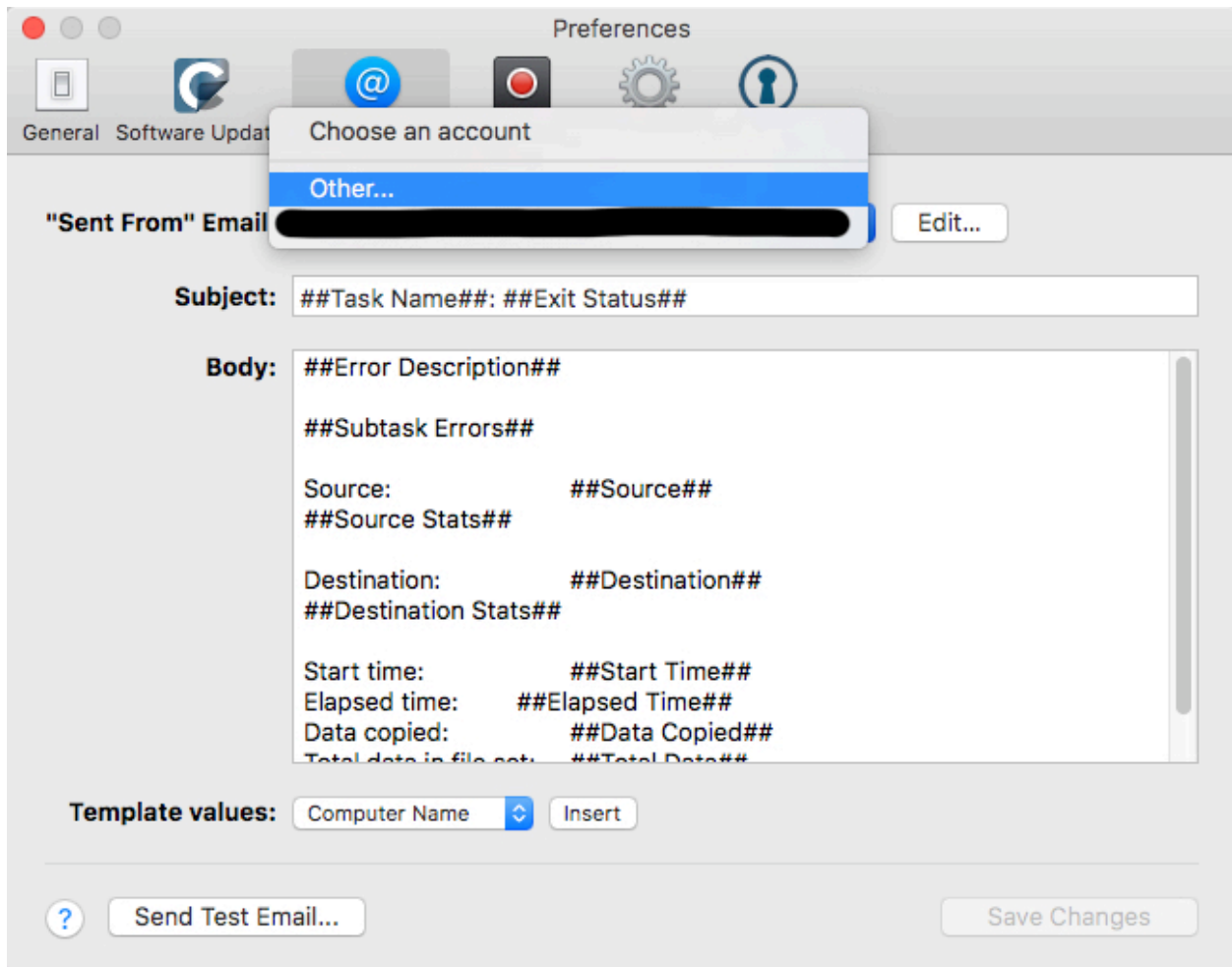
Open a finder window and go to the “WC-pref-archive” folder in the Documents folder, if the backup was successful you should see a copy of the preferences file with a date stamp in the filename.



Now you will have an archive of preferences files in case of a problem. If you do have to use a backup file, remember to remove the date from the filename before launching WeatherCat.

Step 3 - Email Setup in Carbon Copy Cloner

In Carbon Copy Cloner, go to Preferences and click on “Email Settings”, in the “Sent From” Email menu, choose “other”.



The settings are very similar to WeatherCat. “Full Name” can be whatever you want to use, the rest is self-explanatory.

The screenshot shows a 'Preferences' window with the 'Email Settings' tab selected. The window title is 'Preferences'. At the top, there are five icons representing different settings: Software Update, Email Settings (selected), Notifications, Advanced, and Passwords. Below the icons, the main content area is titled 'Please indicate the settings that you use to send email.' and includes a sub-header: 'To provide automated email notifications, CCC will store the password in a private Keychain.' The settings are as follows:

- Full Name: WX_Station
- Email Address: wx [redacted]
- SMTP Server: mail. [redacted]
- Authentication: Password (dropdown menu)
- Username: wx [redacted]
- Password: [redacted]
- Port: Use default ports (25, 465, 587) Use custom port: [empty field]
- Use Secure Socket Layer (SSL) Don't validate the certificate chain (less secure)

At the bottom left is a help icon (?). At the bottom right are 'Cancel' and 'OK' buttons.

After entering your settings, click OK to return to the previous window, click the “Send Test Email...” button to make sure your email settings are working.

Now you can enter the email address and/or text address you wish to receive notifications from the task plan after it completes (Step 1, part 5).