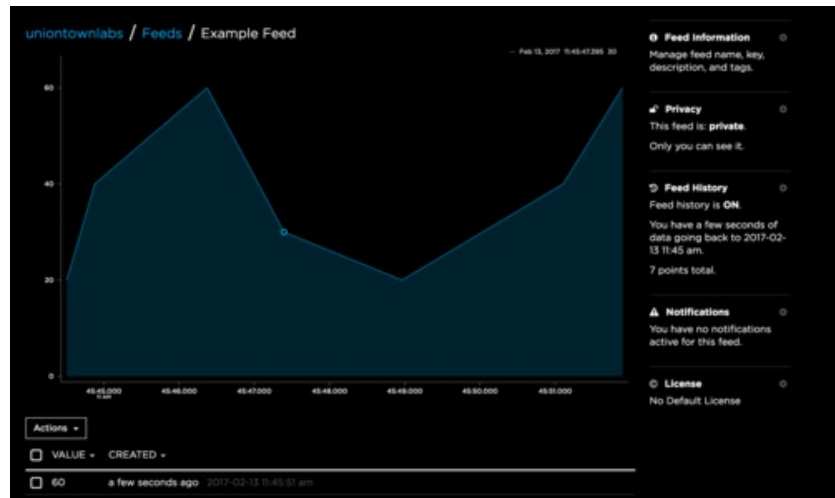


□

Adafruit IO Basics: Feeds

Created by Todd Treece

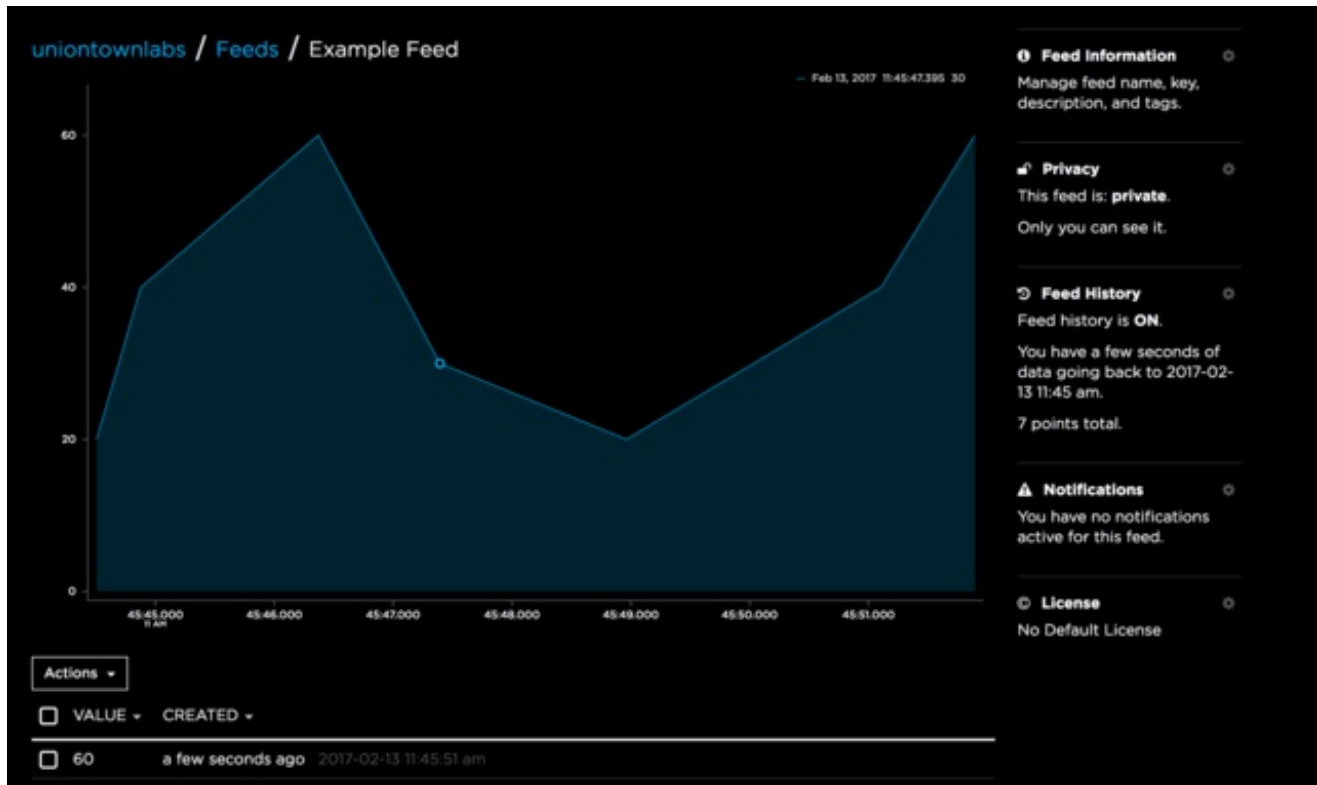


Last updated on 2017-02-24 06:06:09 PM UTC

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Overview



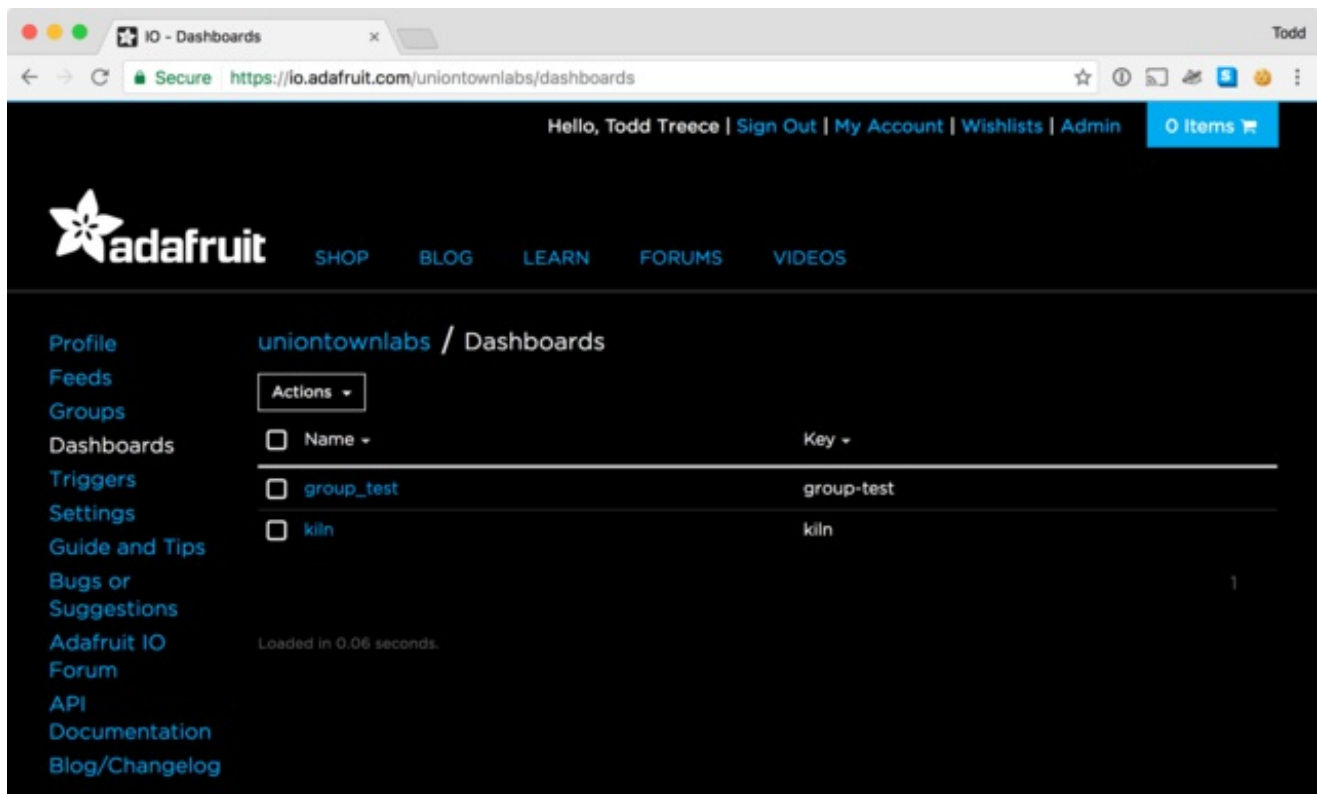
Feeds are the core of the Adafruit IO system. The feed holds **metadata** about the data you push to Adafruit IO. This includes settings for whether the data is public or private, what license the stored sensor data falls under, and a general description of the data. The feed also contains the sensor **data** values that get pushed to Adafruit IO from your device.

You will need to create one feed for each unique source of data you send to the system. For example, if you have a project with one temperature sensor and two humidity sensors, you would need to create three feeds. One feed for the temperature sensor, and one feed for each humidity sensor.

First, let's take a look at how to create a new feed using Adafruit IO.

Creating a Feed

Creating a Feed on Adafruit IO is a very simple process. When you login to your io.adafruit.com (<http://adafru.it/eZ8>) account, you will see a list of your current dashboards like the list shown below.



Click the **Feeds** link on the left hand side of the screen to navigate to the Feeds list.

The screenshot shows the Adafruit IO web interface. The browser address bar displays <https://io.adafruit.com/uniontownlabs/feeds>. The user is logged in as 'Todd Treece'. The left sidebar contains a menu with items: Profile, Feeds, Groups, Dashboard, Triggers, Settings, Guide and Tips, Bugs or Suggestions, Adafruit IO, Forum, API, Documentation, and Blog/Changelog. The 'Feeds' item is highlighted with a red arrow. The main content area shows the 'uniontownlabs / Feeds' page with an 'Actions' dropdown menu and a table of feeds. The table has columns: Name, Key, Last Value, and Recorded. The first row shows a feed named 'Example' with key 'example' and last value 'No Data Available', recorded '5 minutes ago'. A red text box with the instruction 'click on the feed menu item' is overlaid on the image.

Profile
Feeds
Groups
Dashboard
Triggers
Settings
Guide and Tips
Bugs or Suggestions
Adafruit IO
Forum
API
Documentation
Blog/Changelog

uniontownlabs / Feeds

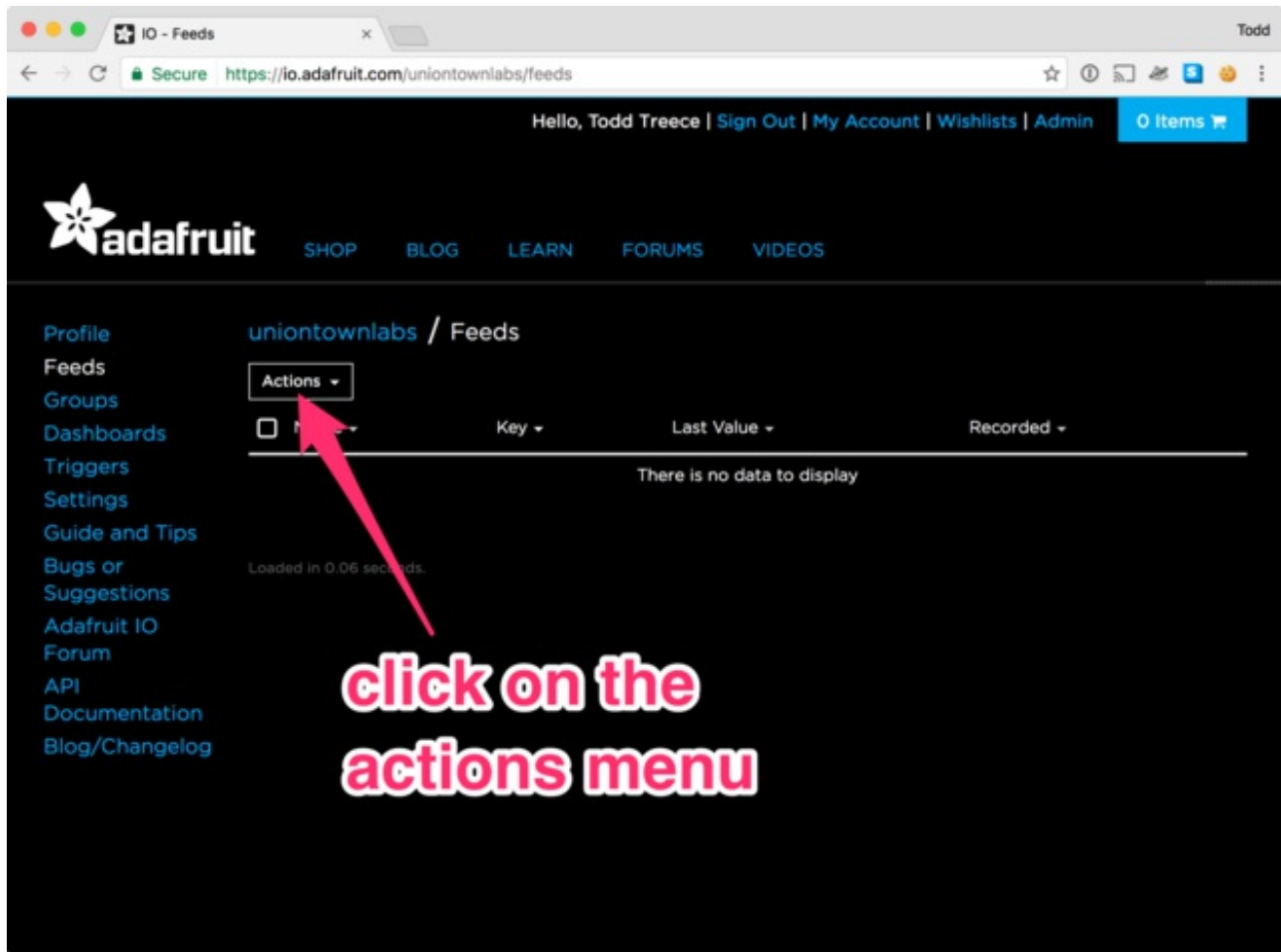
Actions

<input type="checkbox"/>	Name	Key	Last Value	Recorded
<input type="checkbox"/>	Example	example	No Data Available	5 minutes ago

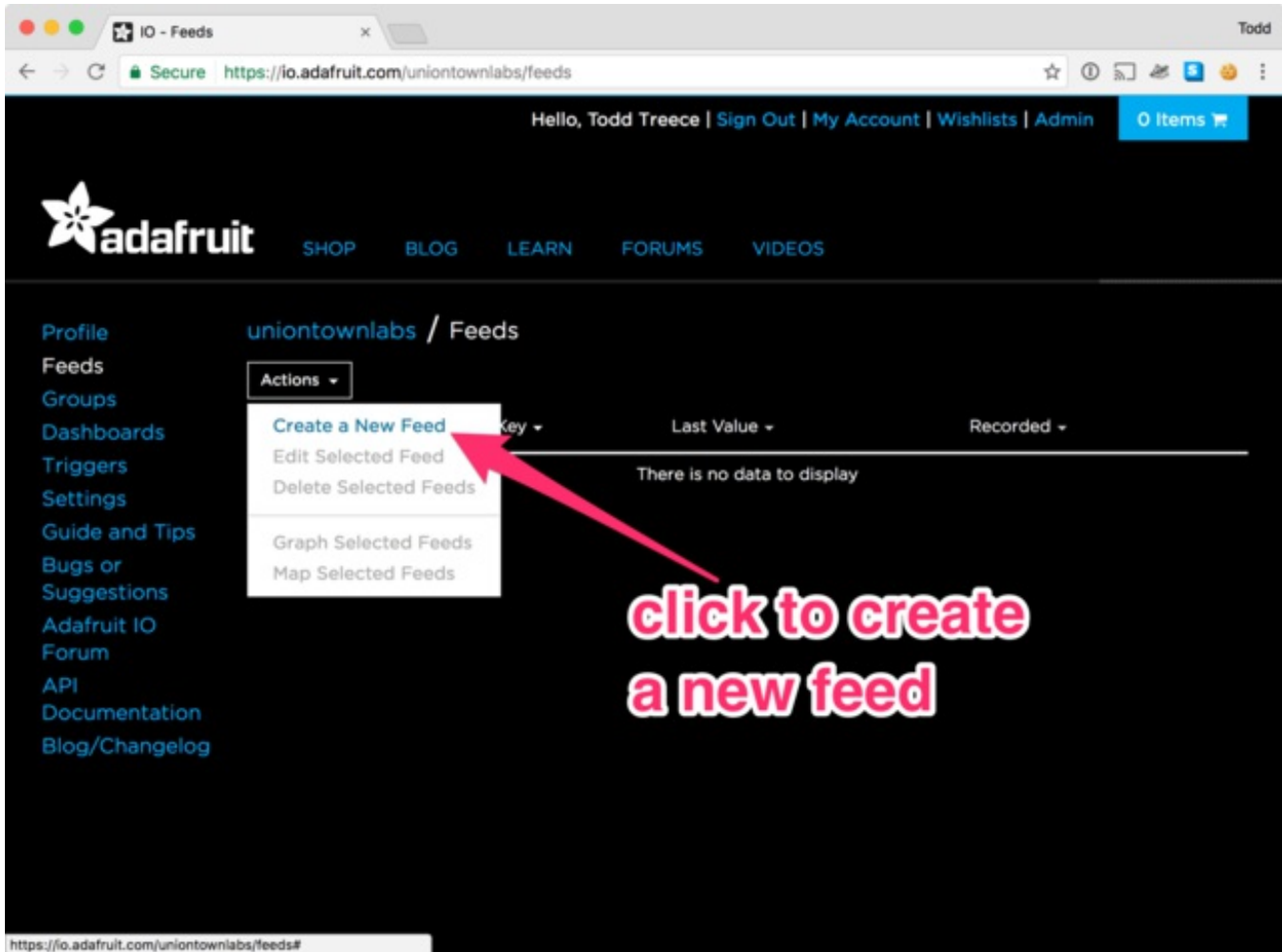
Loaded in 0.16 seconds.

click on the feed menu item

Next, click on the **Actions** menu on the left hand side of the screen.



Next, click on the **Create a New Feed** menu item.



A form modal will launch, and you will be presented with two text inputs:

- **Name** - A short descriptive title of your data. Letters, numbers, and spaces are valid characters, and this field is *required*. The feed name must be *unique* for your account.
- **Description** - A long form description of your data. This field is not required, but it's useful to provide a detailed description if your feed will be public.

Create a new Feed

Name

Example

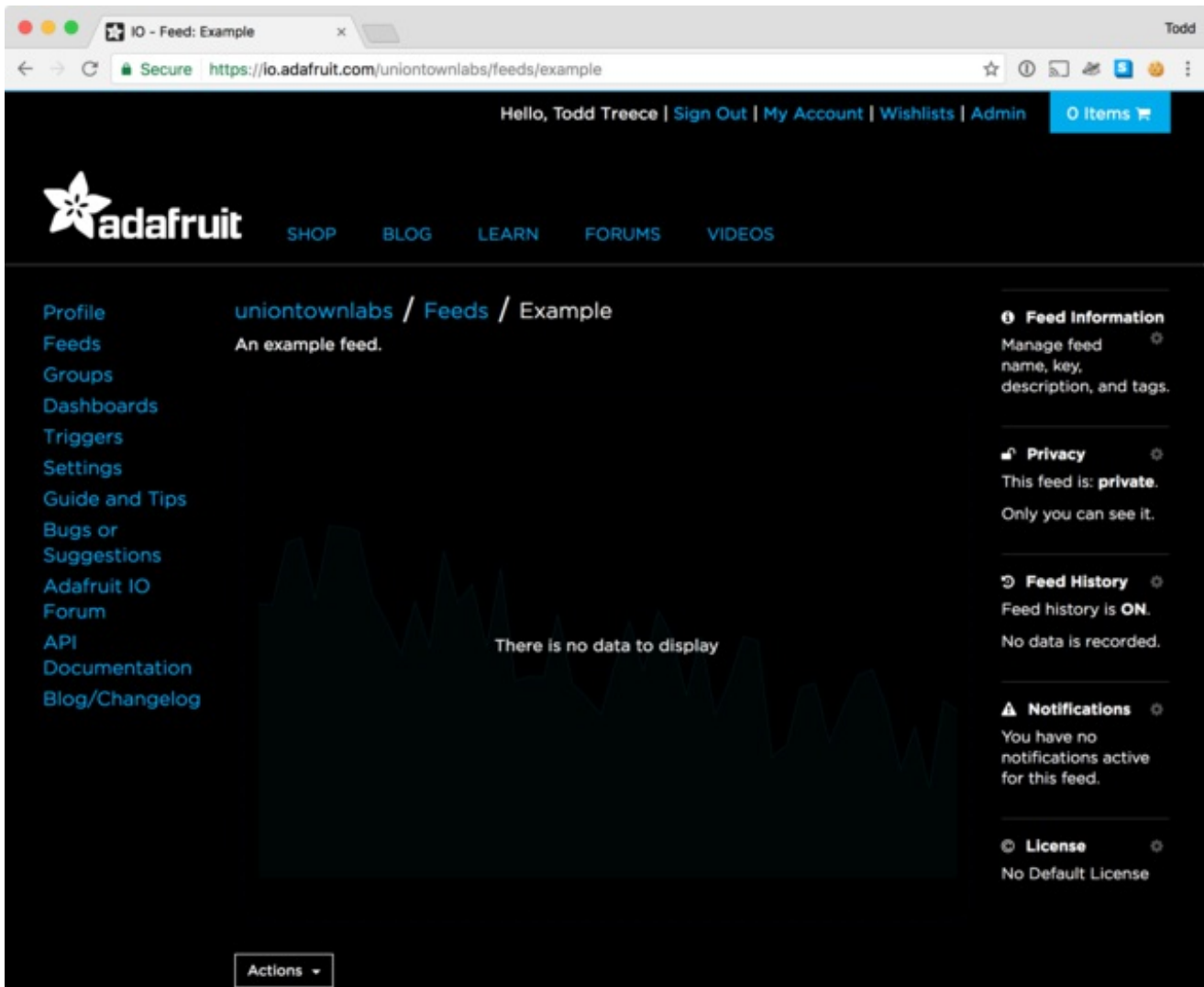
Description

An example feed.

Cancel

Create

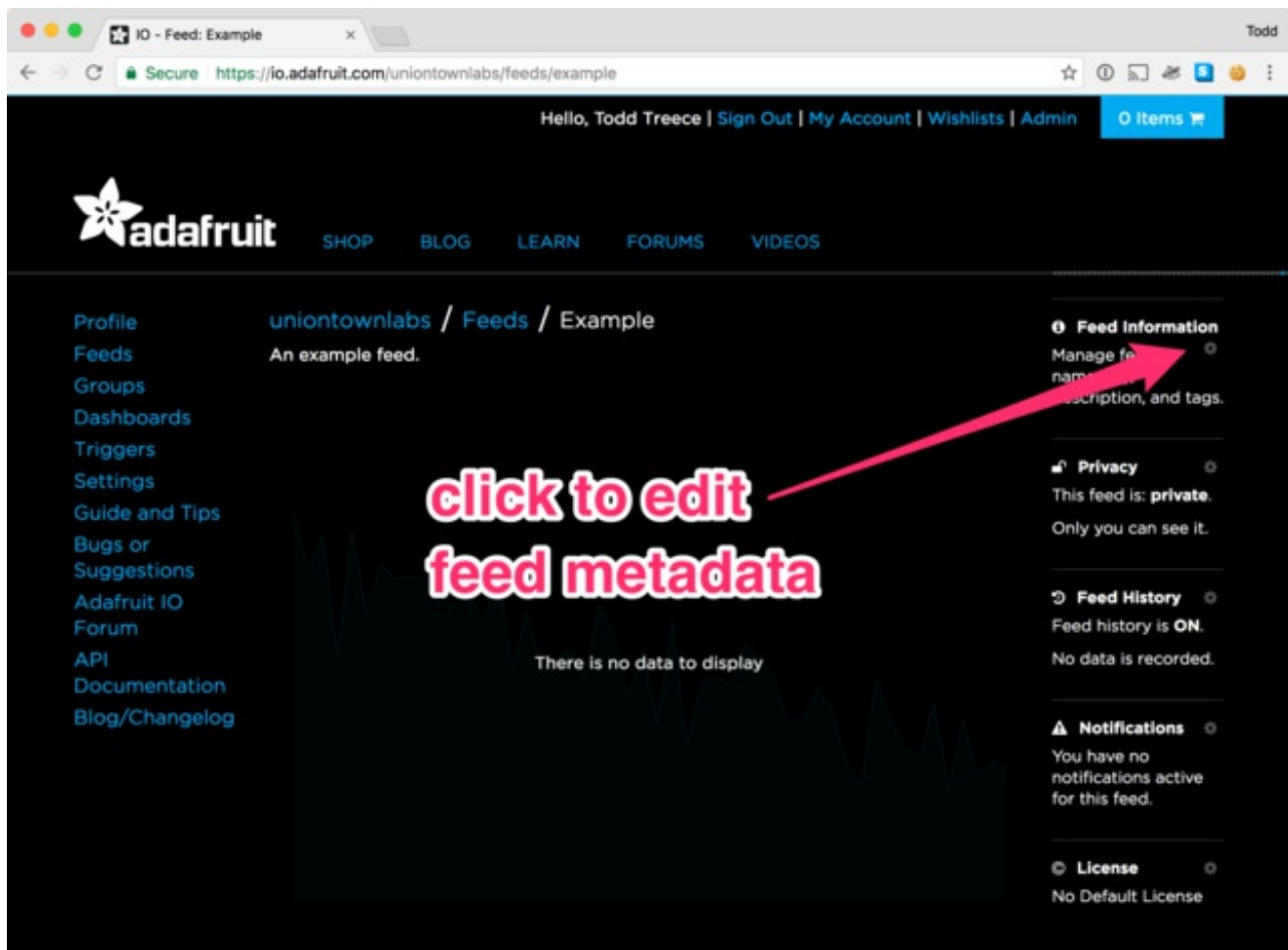
Click the Create Feed button once you have finished entering your feed's name and description. You will then be redirected to your new feed.



Next, we will look at how to edit a feed.

Editing a Feed

If you need to change the name, key, or description of your feed, you can do that by navigating to your feed and clicking the gear icon under the **Feed Information** menu on the right hand side of the screen.



You will be presented with a form so you can edit the name, key, and description of the feed. The **key** for a feed can be used when accessing the feed programatically. By default, the key is a lowercase version of your feed name with any spaces replaced with dashes. You can modify the key to be any unique combination of lowercase letters, numbers, and dashes.

Edit Feed

Name

Example Feed for Project X|

Key

example

Description

An example feed.

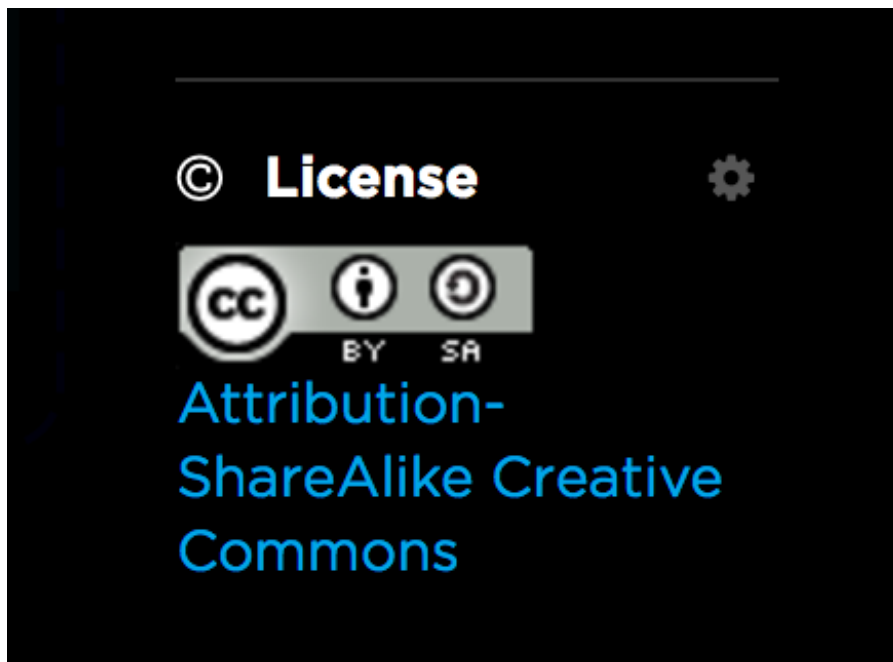
Cancel

Save

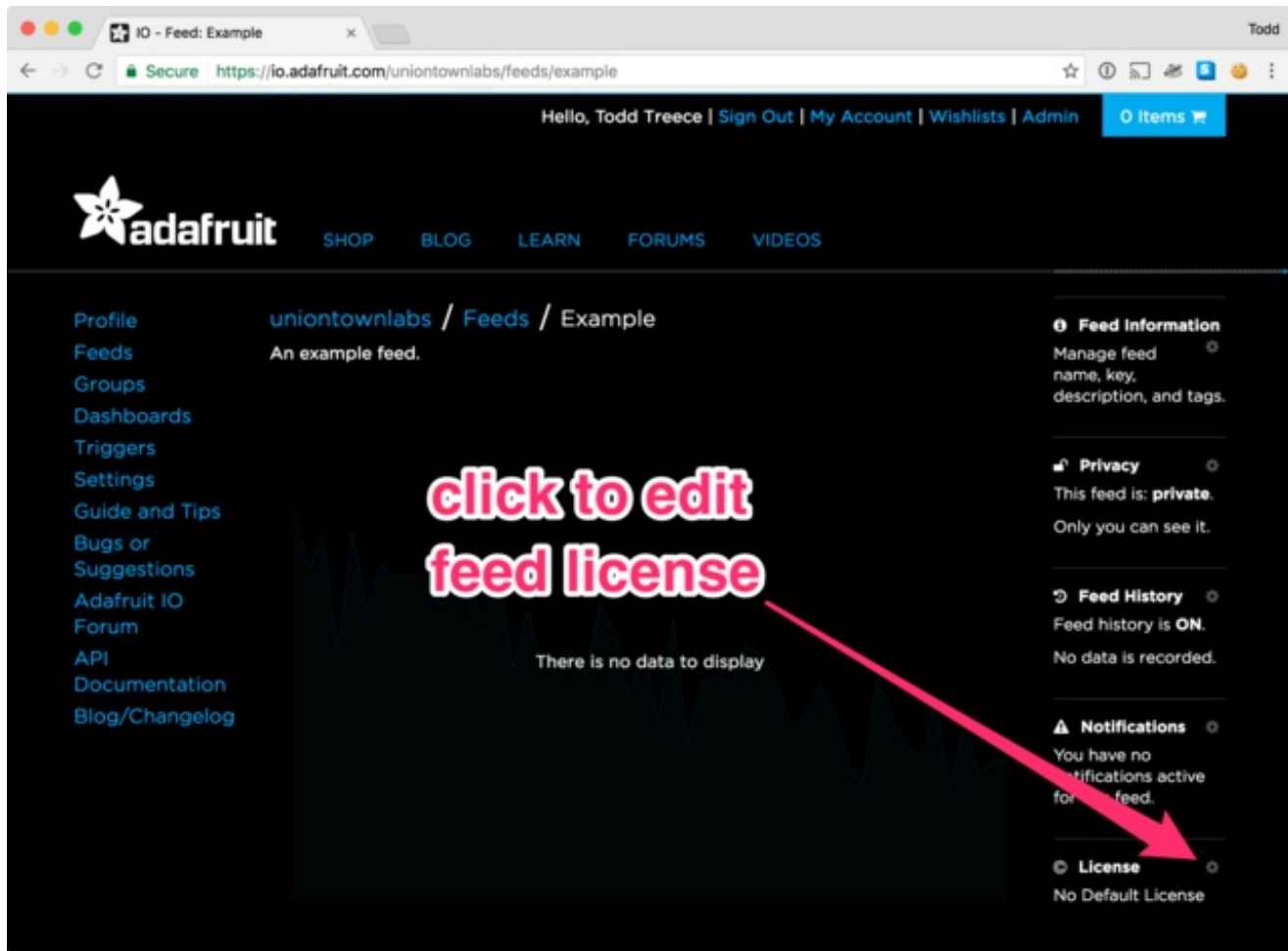
Click *Save* once you have finished editing the values.

License Settings

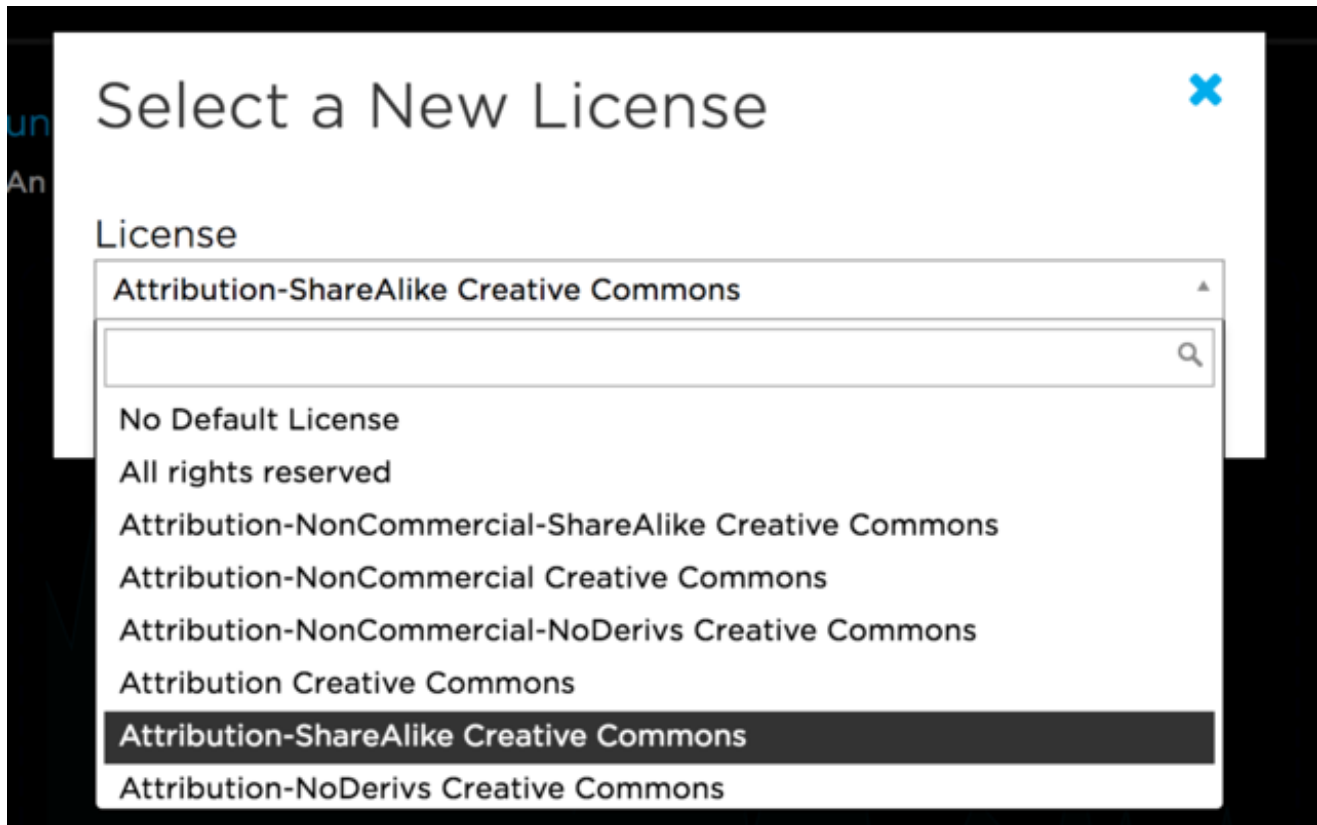
If you are sharing data publicly, you should set the appropriate license for your data. You can choose to reserve all rights for the data, or license it under any of the [Creative Commons licenses](http://adafru.it/eZc) (<http://adafru.it/eZc>) in the list.



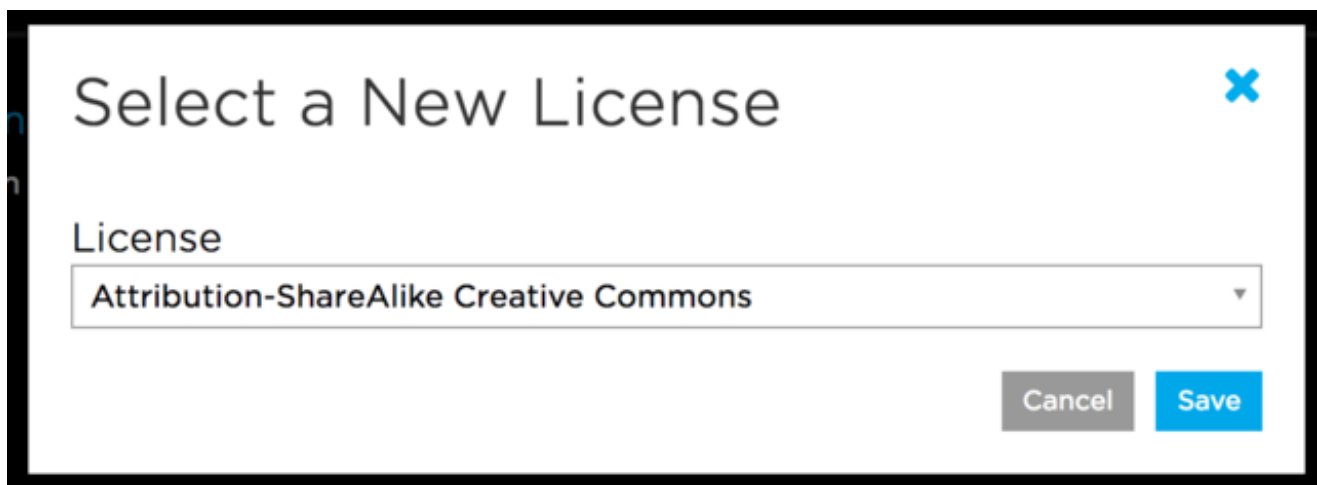
To change the license for your feed, click on the gear icon under the **License** menu on the bottom right of the screen. You will be presented with a list of licenses to select from. Click on the license to save your selection.



You will then be presented with a menu of licenses to select from.

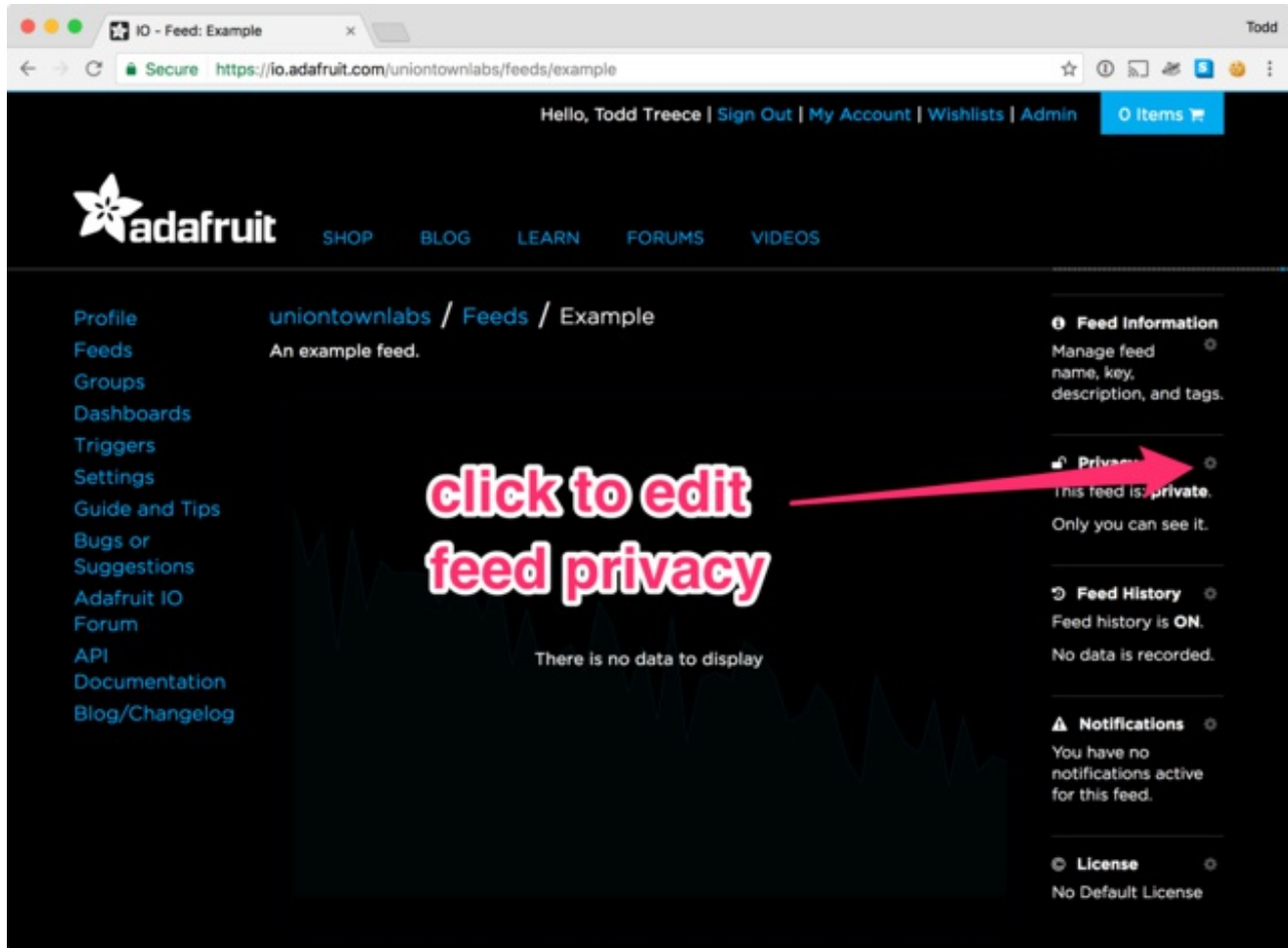


Click on the **Save** button to save your license selection.

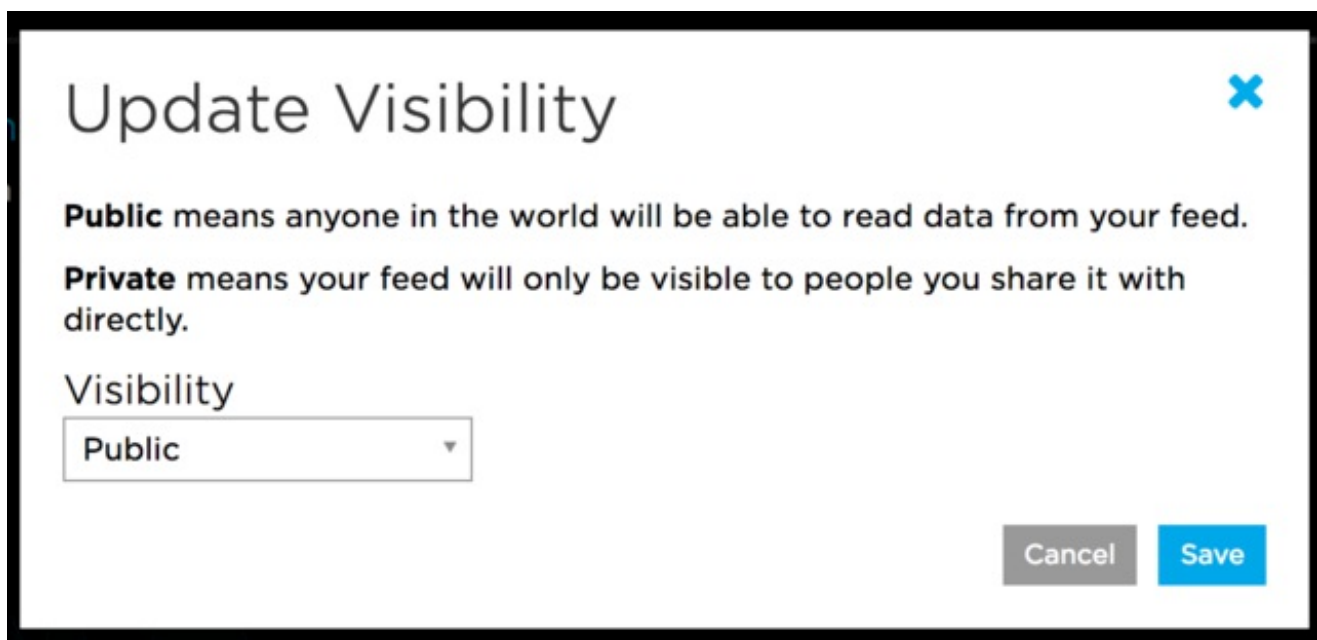


Privacy Settings

If you would like to share your data publicly, you can change your feed's privacy settings to make the feed public. To do this, you will need to click on the gear icon under the **Privacy** menu on the right hand side of the screen.

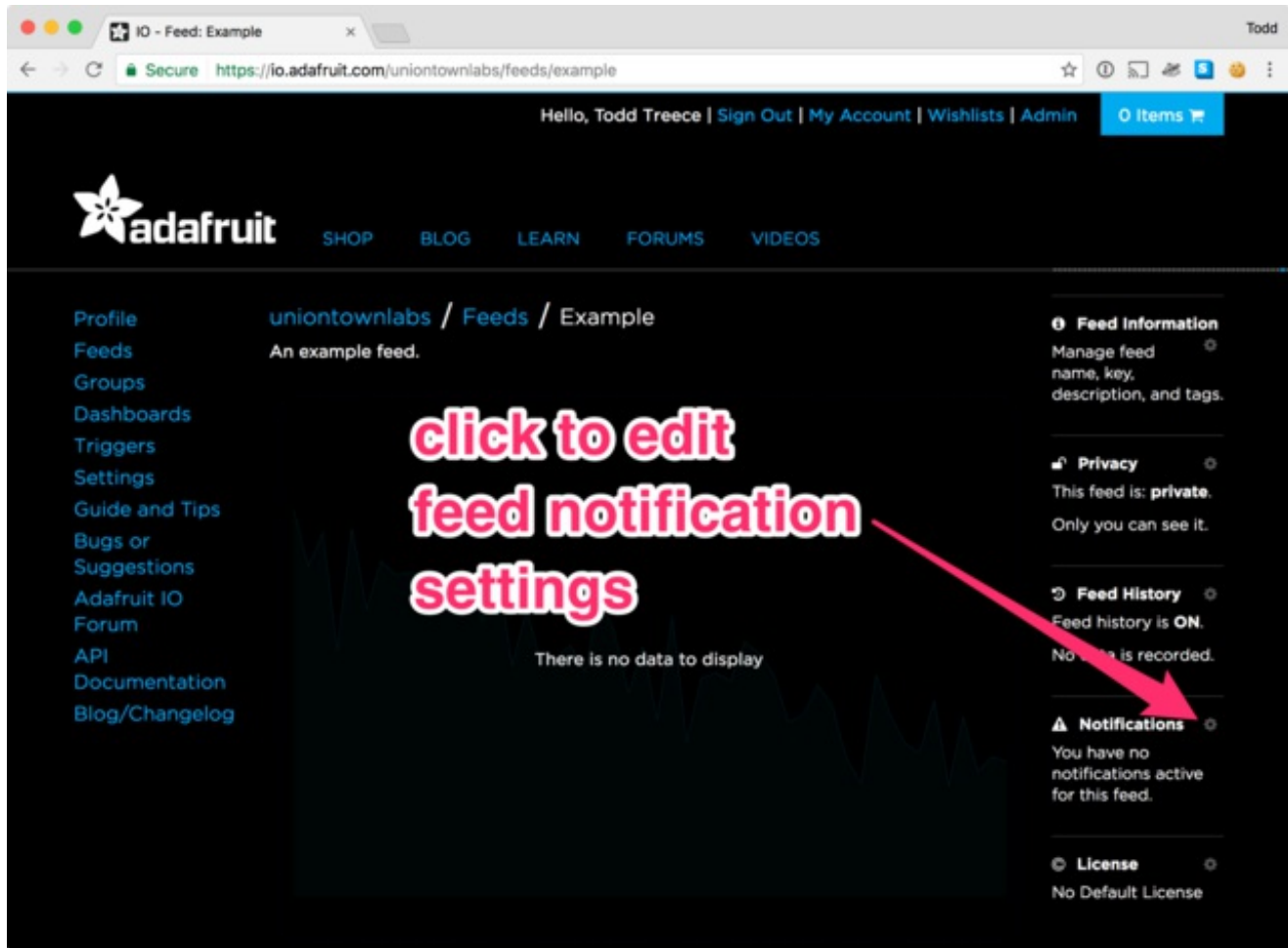


Select either *Public* or *Private* from the menu, and click the **Save** button to change feed visibility.



Notification Settings

When notifications are activated, Adafruit IO will send an email to alert you if no new data has been received for your feed within the given amount of time. To change the notification settings for your feed, click on the gear icon under the **Notifications** menu on the right hand side of the screen.



Next, enable notifications by selecting **ON** from the status menu, and selecting a timeout. Click **Save** when finished.

Update Feed Notifications

When notifications are activated, Adafruit IO will send an email to alert you if no new data has been received for your feed within the given amount of time.

Notification Status

ON

Notification Timeout

1 hour

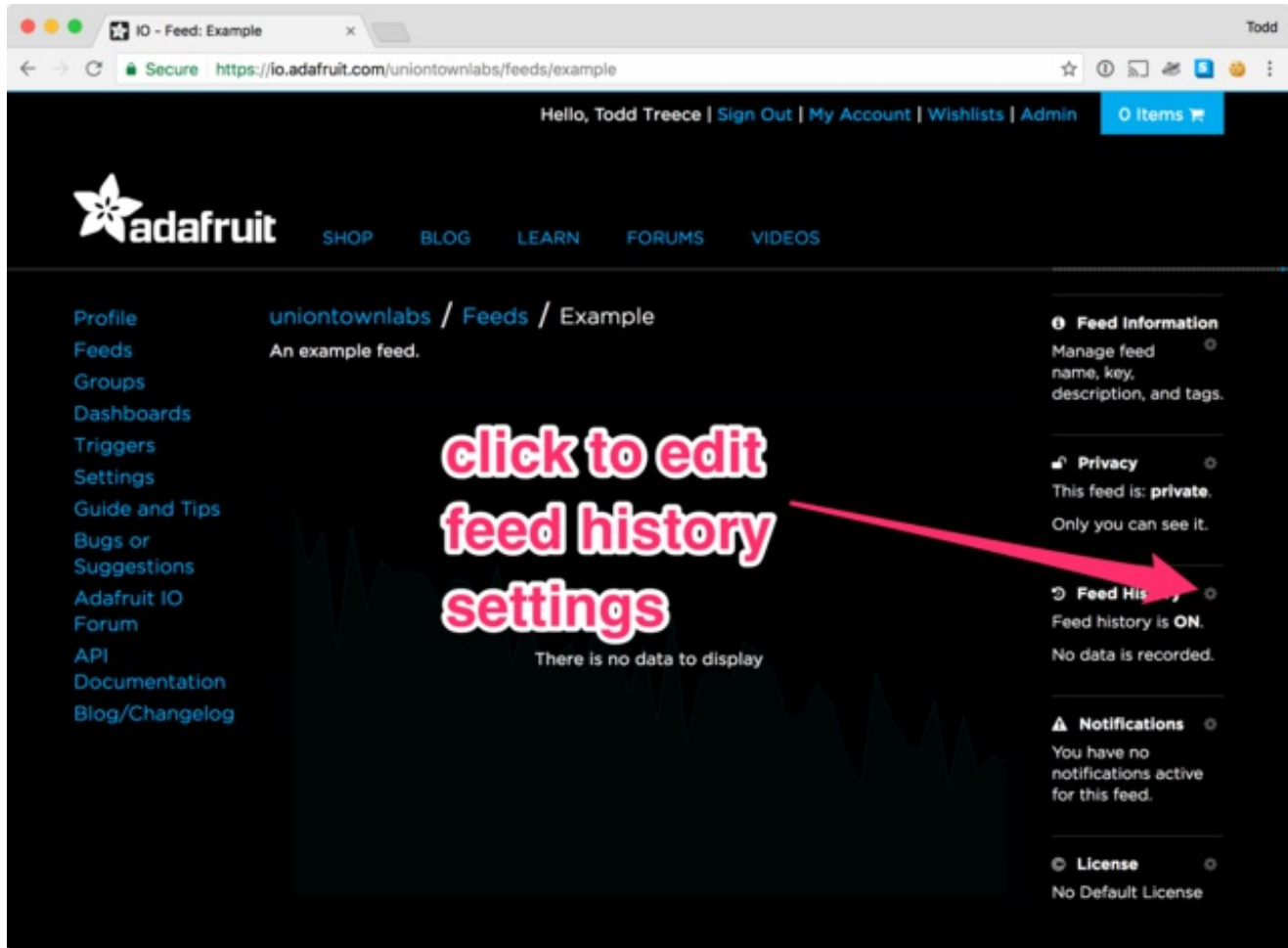
Cancel Save

turn notifications on and set timeout

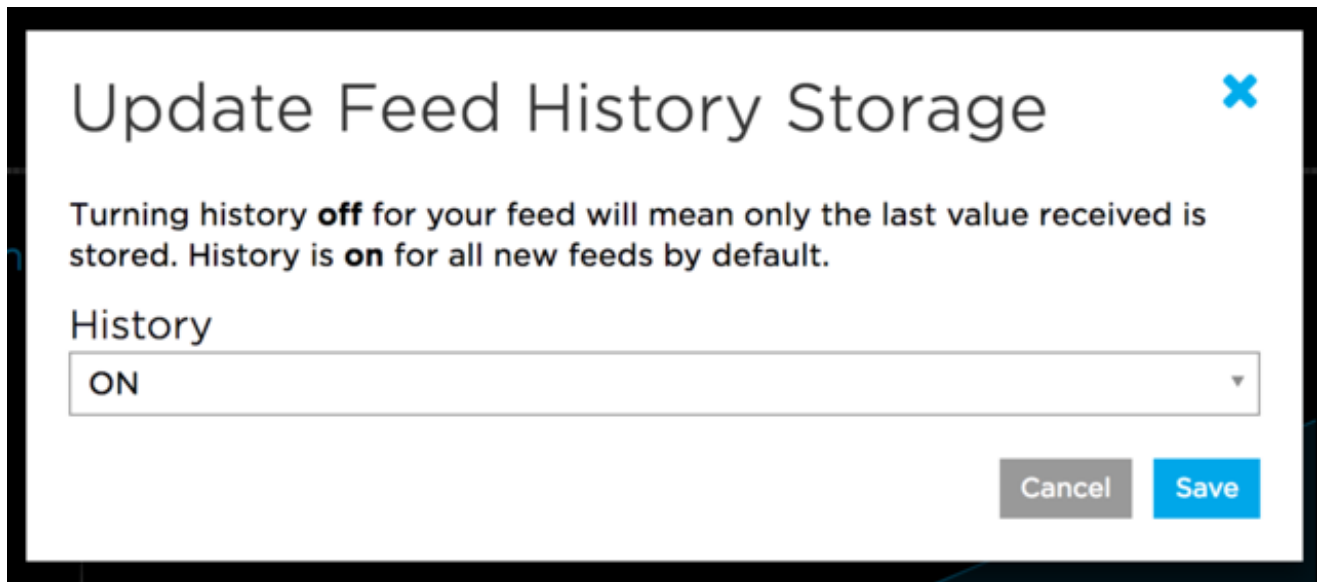
History Settings

Turning history off for your feed will mean only the last value received is stored. History is on for all new feeds by default, but you can turn history off if you would like to push large values. By default you can push values up to 1KB in length, but with feed history off, you can publish values up to 100KB in length.

To change the history settings for your feed, click on the gear icon under the **Feed History** menu on the right hand side of the screen.

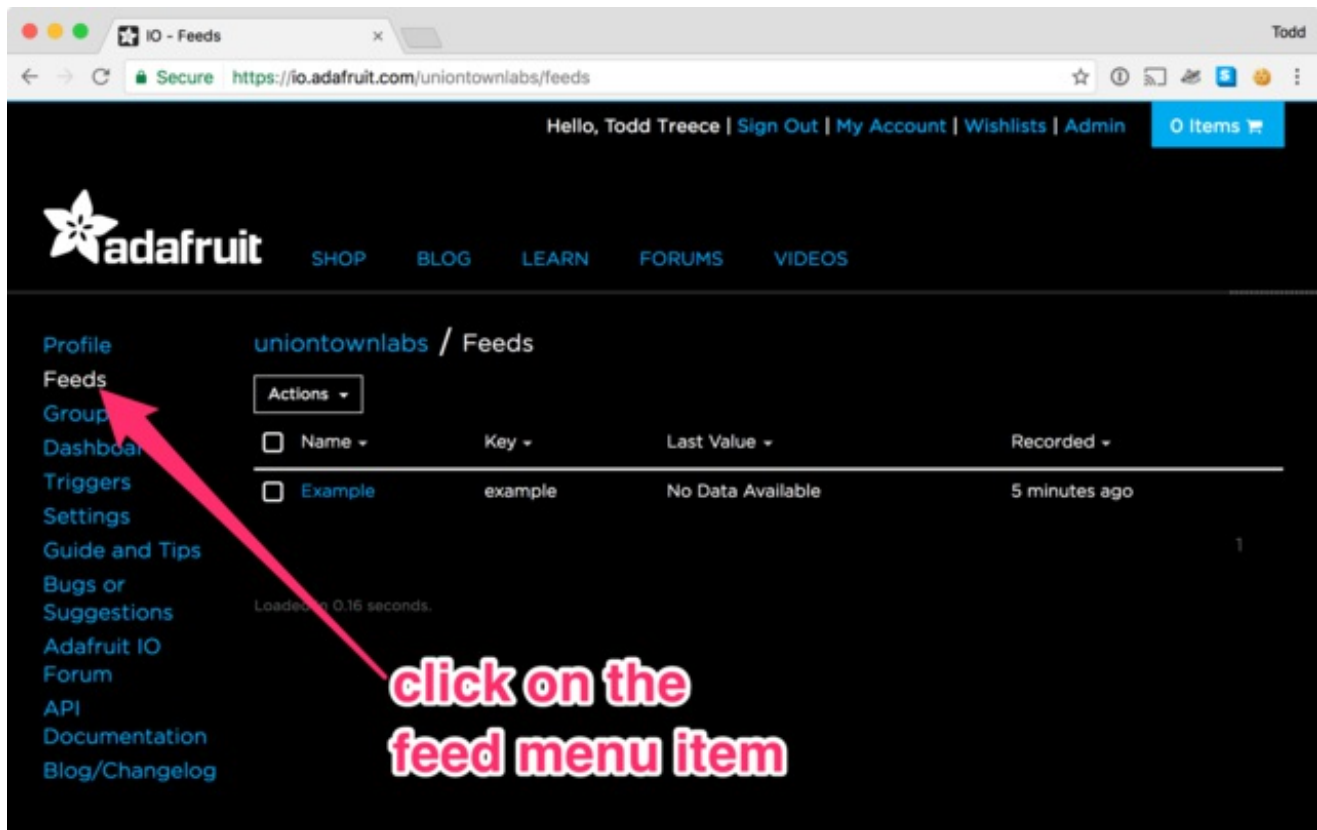


Next, enable or disable history by selecting **ON** or **OFF** from the menu, and click **Save**.

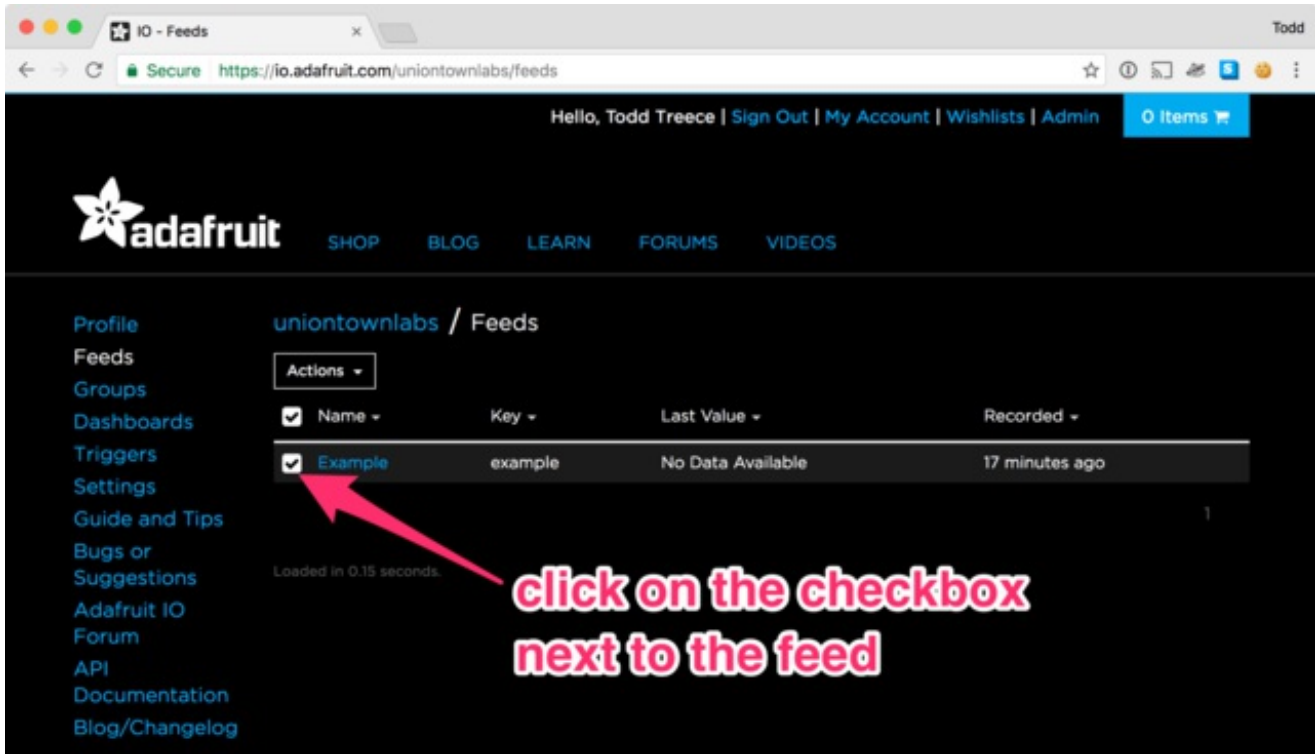


Deleting a Feed

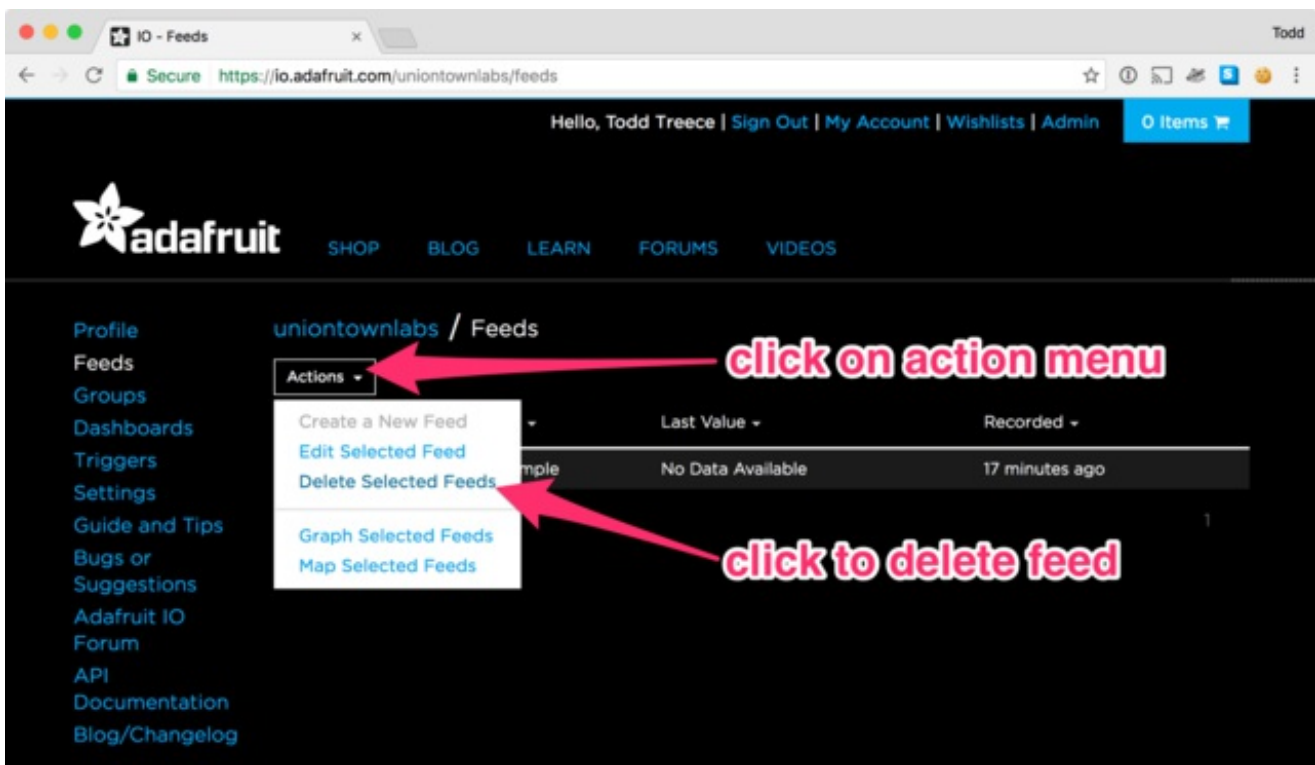
If you would like to delete a feed, you will first need to navigate back to the list of feeds by clicking on the **Feeds** menu item on the left hand side of the screen.



Once the list of feeds has loaded, you will need to click on the checkbox next to the feed you wish to delete.



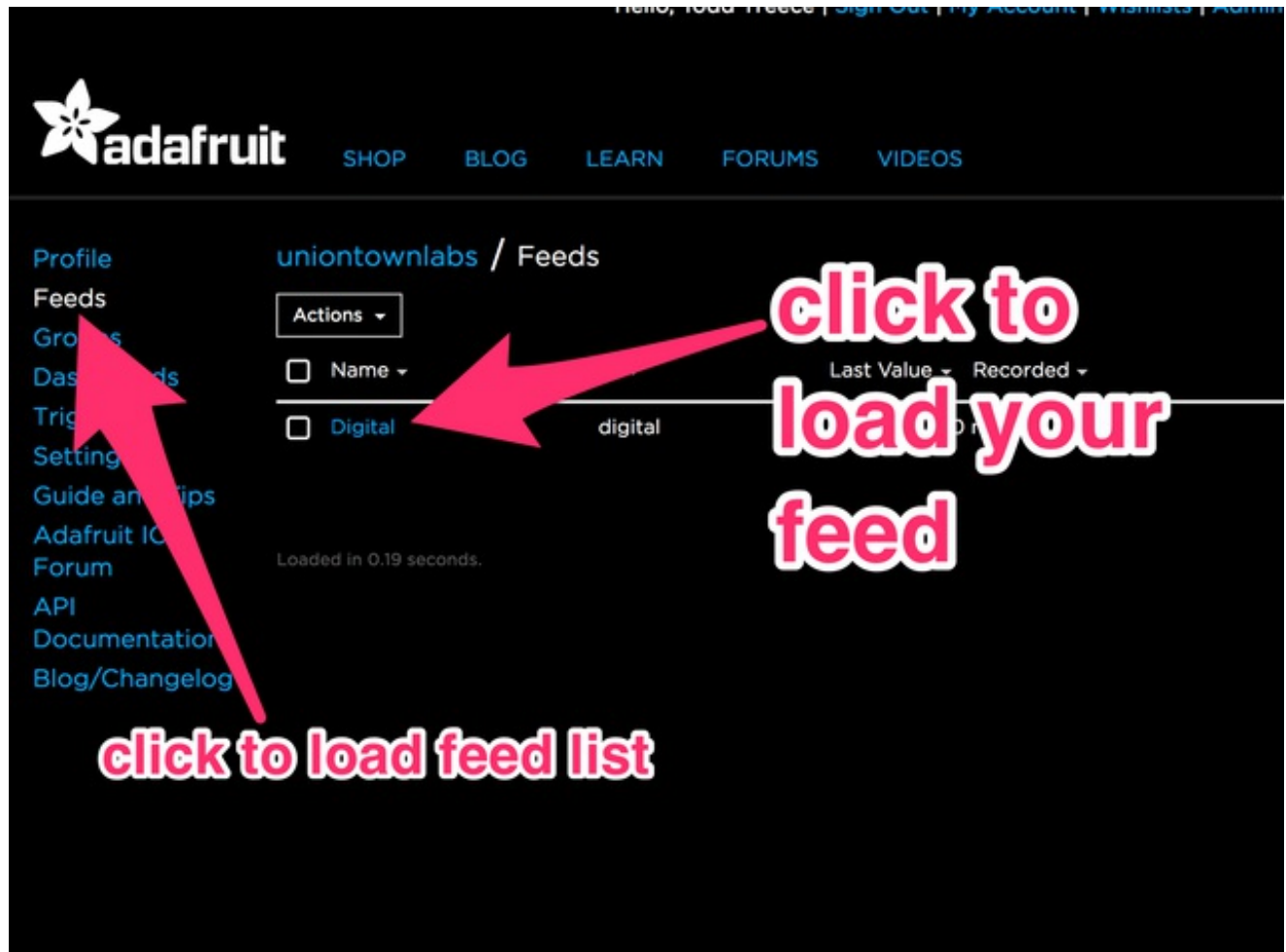
Next, click on the **Actions** menu and select **Delete Selected Feeds** from the list of options to delete your feed.



Next, we will look at how you can download the data from your feed in various formats.

Downloading Feed Data

If you would like to download all of the stored data from your feed, you can do so by navigating to your feed from the *Feeds* list. Click on the name of your feed to load it.



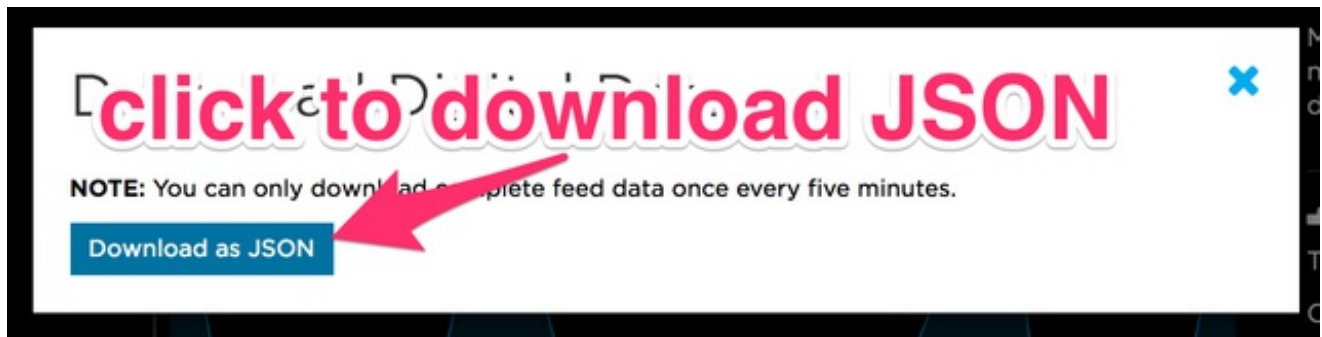
Next, click on the **Actions** menu below the feed chart.

The screenshot shows the Adafruit IO web interface. The top navigation bar includes the Adafruit logo and links for SHOP, BLOG, LEARN, FORUMS, and VIDEOS. The left sidebar contains a menu with options like Profile, Feeds, Groups, Dashboards, Triggers, Settings, Guide and Tips, Adafruit IO Forum, API, Documentation, and Blog/Changelog. The main content area displays a feed titled 'uniontownlabs / Feeds / Digital'. It features a line graph with a blue area fill, showing a periodic signal. A large red arrow points from the text 'click on the actions menu' to the 'Actions' dropdown menu. Below the graph, there is a table with columns for 'VALUE' and 'CREATED'. The table contains two rows of data: one with a value of 1 and another with a value of 0, both timestamped 'a few seconds ago' and '2017-02-15 4:08:09 pm' and '2017-02-15 4:08:08 pm' respectively. On the right side, there are several settings sections: 'Feed Information' (Manage feed name, key, description, and tags), 'Privacy' (This feed is: private. Only you can see it.), 'Feed History' (Feed history is ON. You have a few seconds of data going back to 2017-02-15 4:08 pm. 7 points total.), 'Notifications' (You have no notifications active for this feed.), and 'License' (No Default License).

Select **Download All Data** from the actions menu.



Finally, click on one of the available formats to download your feed data in that format.



Next, we will look at the options for interacting with feeds using the REST API and client libraries

Feed API

If you would like to learn more information about accessing feeds via the Adafruit IO REST API, you can check out the official API documentation.

[Feed REST API Docs](http://adafru.it/uff)

<http://adafru.it/uff>

We also have a growing list of client libraries. Each library supports reading, creating, updating, and deleting feeds. Visit the links below to learn more about the library you wish to use.

[Ruby Client Feed Docs](http://adafru.it/enB)

<http://adafru.it/enB>

[Python Client Feed Docs](http://adafru.it/eli)

<http://adafru.it/eli>

[Node.js Client Feed Docs](http://adafru.it/elj)

<http://adafru.it/elj>