

Giant Sloth Orchard Weather Server - Development Setup Guide

Local Development Environment Setup

Prerequisites

- Node.js 14.0.0 or higher
- npm 6.0.0 or higher
- Git (optional, for version control)

Quick Start (5 Minutes)

1. Download and Setup the Proxy Server

```
bash

# Create project directory
mkdir giant-sloth-weather-server
cd giant-sloth-weather-server

# Save the proxy-server.js and package.json files to this directory
# Then install dependencies
npm install
```

2. Create the Public Directory Structure

```
bash

mkdir public
# Copy your website files (index.html, styles.css, *.js) to the public/ folder
```

3. Start the Development Server

```
bash

npm run dev
# or for simple start:
npm start
```

4. Access Your Weather Station

- Open browser to: `http://localhost:3000`
- Your Giant Sloth Orchard site will load with full weather functionality

Directory Structure

```
giant-sloth-weather-server/
├── proxy-server.js      # Main server file
├── package.json         # Dependencies and scripts
├── public/              # Your website files
│   ├── index.html
│   ├── styles.css
│   ├── plant-manager.js
│   ├── weather-manager.js
│   ├── map-manager.js
│   ├── app.js
│   ├── giantslothorchard.png
│   ├── giantslothorchard_map.png
│   └── plantdatabase.js
└── logs/                # Auto-created for logs
```

Weather Configuration in Development

1. Demo Mode (Default - Works Immediately)

- **Setup:** No configuration needed
- **Features:** Realistic weather patterns, daily cycles, random variations
- **Status:** Green LED, shows "demo" in footer
- **Usage:** Perfect for testing and development

2. Cloud API Mode (WeatherLink v2 Cloud)

1. **Get Credentials** from Davis Instruments WeatherLink.com:

- API Key
- Station ID
- API Secret

2. **Configure in Weather Settings:**

- Click Weather page → Settings gear (⚙️)
- Enter Cloud API credentials
- Click "Test Cloud API" to verify
- Switch to "Cloud Mode"

3. **Proxy URL Configuration:**

javascript

```
// In weather-manager.js, the cloud API will use:  
// Local proxy: http://localhost:3000/api/cloud/current/{stationId}  
// This automatically handles CORS and API signatures
```

3. Local API Mode (Direct WeatherLink Device)

1. Find Your Device IP:

- Use network discovery: `http://localhost:3000/api/discover`
- Or check your router's connected devices
- Default WeatherLink Live IP: `192.168.1.100`

2. Configure in Weather Settings:

- Enter device IP address (e.g., `192.168.1.100`)
- Set port (usually `80`)
- Enable HTTPS if your device uses it
- Set proxy URL: `http://localhost:3000`
- Click "Test Local API" to verify
- Switch to "Local Mode"

4. Auto Mode

- **Setup:** Configure both Cloud and Local API credentials
- **Behavior:** Tries Cloud → Local → Demo (in that order)
- **Status:** Shows actual working mode in footer



Development Server Features

Available Endpoints

bash

```
# Your weather station dashboard  
http://localhost:3000/
```

```
# API endpoints for testing  
http://localhost:3000/api/status      # Server status  
http://localhost:3000/api/health     # Health check  
http://localhost:3000/api/demo/current # Demo weather data  
http://localhost:3000/api/discover   # Find WeatherLink devices
```

Testing API Connections

```
bash
```

```
# Test cloud API
```

```
curl -X POST http://localhost:3000/api/test/cloud \  
-H "Content-Type: application/json" \  
-d '{"apiKey":"your-key","stationId":"your-id","apiSecret":"your-secret"}'
```

```
# Test local API
```

```
curl -X POST http://localhost:3000/api/test/local \  
-H "Content-Type: application/json" \  
-d '{"ip":"192.168.1.100","port":"80","https":false}'
```

Development Scripts

```
bash
```

```
npm run dev      # Start with auto-restart (recommended)  
npm start       # Start server normally  
npm run health   # Check server health  
npm run status   # Get detailed status  
npm run demo     # View demo data  
npm run discover # Find WeatherLink devices on network
```

Troubleshooting Development Issues

Common Problems and Solutions

1. "Cannot connect to proxy server" Error

```
bash
```

```
# Check if server is running
```

```
curl http://localhost:3000/api/health
```

```
# Restart the server
```

```
npm run dev
```

2. Local API Connection Fails

```
bash
```

```
# Test device directly
```

```
curl http://192.168.1.100/v1/current_conditions
```

```
# Use discovery to find devices
```

```
curl http://localhost:3000/api/discover
```

3. Cloud API Authentication Errors

- Verify credentials at WeatherLink.com
- Check API quota/limits
- Ensure Station ID is correct

4. CORS Errors in Browser

- Make sure you're accessing via `http://localhost:3000` (not `file://`)
- Server handles all CORS automatically

Debug Mode

bash

Enable verbose logging

`DEBUG=* npm run dev`

View server logs

`npm run logs`

Testing Weather Functionality

Complete Test Sequence

1. **Start Development Server:** `npm run dev`
2. **Open Dashboard:** `http://localhost:3000`
3. **Test Demo Mode:** Should work immediately with green LED
4. **Test Local API:**
 - Enter local device IP in settings
 - Click "Test Local API"
 - Switch to Local Mode if successful
5. **Test Cloud API:**
 - Enter WeatherLink credentials in settings
 - Click "Test Cloud API"
 - Switch to Cloud Mode if successful
6. **Test Auto Mode:** Should intelligently switch between available APIs

Expected Behavior

- **LED Colors:** ● Red (disconnected) → ● Yellow (connecting) → ● Green (connected)
- **Footer Status:** Shows actual active mode (`demo`/`cloud`/`local`/`connecting`/`disconnected`)
- **Data Updates:** Live updates every 1 second (configurable in settings)

- **Charts:** Historical data visualization with 24h/7d/30d ranges

Development Best Practices

File Organization

- Keep website files in `public/` directory
- Server files in root directory
- Use `npm run dev` for development (auto-restart)
- Check `http://localhost:3000/api/status` for server health

Performance Tips








- Demo mode is fastest for UI development
- Local API mode is best for real device testing
- Cloud API mode for production-like testing
- Use browser dev tools to monitor network requests

Security Notes

- Proxy server handles all API authentication
- No credentials stored in browser
- CORS properly configured for development
- All API calls proxied through localhost:3000

Success Indicators

Your development setup is working correctly when:

1.  Server starts without errors: `npm run dev`
2.  Dashboard loads: `http://localhost:3000`
3.  Demo mode shows green LED and live weather data
4.  Settings panel opens and saves configurations
5.  API tests return success (if credentials configured)
6.  Weather widgets update in real-time
7.  Charts display data with proper tropical styling

Next Steps

Once development setup is working:

1. Test all weather modes with your actual WeatherLink device

2. Customize plant database and map layout
 3. Configure update intervals for your needs
 4. Export/backup weather data for testing
 5. Prepare for production deployment
-



Happy developing with Giant Sloth Orchard Weather Station!