In wake of Apple acquisition, Dark Sky ends Android support

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- Android users launching the app will see this message.
- Key features of the app no longer function.

As promised, popular weather app Dark Sky ended support for Android and Wear OS over the weekend. Android Dark Sky users report that the app is no longer working and that it presents the user with a message saying that the “app has shut down.”

The impending shutdown was first announced when Apple acquired the company in March of this year. Despite the end of support for the world’s most popular mobile operating system, Dark Sky’s developers wrote in a blog post announcing the acquisition that joining Apple means they could “reach far more people, with far more impact, than we ever could alone.”

The Dark Sky Android app is not the only popular service on the chopping block as a result of the acquisition. Several app developers on both iOS and Android have used Dark Sky’s API for weather data for a while now, but like Android support, that’s going away. There’s a little more time in that case, though: developers have until the end of next year to find and implement alternative data sources.

When the acquisition was first announced, Dark Sky was slated

to stop working on Android on July 1. That deadline was extended by one month, but it went into effect as planned on August 1. The Web version of Dark Sky was scheduled to end today, but Apple has extended that deadline, though embeds have been disabled. A new date for the Web shutdown has not been specified. That version will remain an option for Android users for now until it, too, stops working.

Below: Screenshots from the iOS and desktop Web versions of the app.

- An example of Dark Sky's maps from the desktop Web version.
- Here's a precipitation heatmap from the iOS version.
- This is the main view in the iOS app.
- And here's the multi-day forecast in the app.
- This push notification went out to iOS users today.

Android users who were paying $2.99 per year for the app saw their subscriptions automatically ended and received Google Play store email notifications saying, "Hyperlocal Weather subscription from The Dark Sky Company, LLC on Google Play has been canceled." Subscriptions were refunded.

Apple's public iOS 14 preview page makes it pretty clear that the next version of the iPhone's operating system is incorporating Dark Sky-related features and data.

Here's an excerpt from Apple's copy on the subject:

> ***Next-hour precipitation***
>
> *View a minute-by-minute chart that shows the intensity of rain or snow over the coming hour. Available for the U.S.*
>
> ***Significant shifts***
>
> *The Weather widget indicates when the weather will be much warmer, colder, or wetter in the next day.*

> ***Severe weather***
>
> *The Weather app and widgets display government alerts about certain severe weather events including tornados, winter storms, flash floods, and more. Available for the U.S., Europe, Japan, Canada, and Australia.*
>
> ***Multi-day precipitation forecast***
>
> *The multi-day weather forecast now includes the chance of precipitation for each day.*

iOS 14 is expected to launch later this year.

Listing image by Dark Sky

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