How to use alerts in Cormit

This guide explains how to set up alerts in Cormit and how Cormit sends them. Words that appear on Cormit's screens and in its messages are shown in bold italics. A path such as Settings >Alerts means: open the ***Settings*** menu, then choose ***Alerts***.

1. What an alert is

An alert is a rule that tells you when a measurement from one of your nodes goes above or below a value you choose. For example, an alert can tell you when the water in a tank falls below 4 feet, or when more than 5,000 gallons of water are used in a day.

You set up an alert in two steps. First, you **create** it under Settings >Alerts; this specifies the type of sensor it applies to, the trigger level that activates the alert, and whether the alert is activated when the sensor reading is greater or less than the trigger level (section 3). Then, under Settings >Nodes you **apply** the alert to each node that is connected to a sensor to which you want the alert to apply (section 4).

Alerts are set up by administrators (as designated in a customer's account settings). Other users cannot create or edit alerts, but they receive the alerts of the nodes to which the administrator has given them access.

Alerts send messages when the alert is activated. Alerts do not instigate any other actions.

2. Before you start

- **Time zone:** Each node's ***Time Zone***, in the section ***Node info*** of its settings, sets the hours of alerts that are checked only at certain times of day, and also sets the times given in alert messages.
- **Sensor names:** In the section ***Sensors and meters*** of a node's settings, you can give each water meter and depth sensor a recognizable name, for example ***Well by barn*** or ***Tank - 8000 gal***.
- **Who receives alerts:** Alerts are sent to those users that the administrator has designated as having access to this node (*i.e.*, in Node settings: ***Users who can access this node***).
- **Phones:** Each user chooses under Settings >Notifications whether to receive text messages and/or WhatsApp messages. The messages go to the cell phone number that the user provided when the user set up their profile in Cormit. Each user also chooses their own units, for example feet or meters, under Settings >Units.

3. Step 1: Create an alert (Settings >Alerts)

Go to Settings >Alerts, click ***Add Alert***, fill in the boxes below, and click ***Add***.

A new alert is switched on (with its ***Status*** set to ***Enabled*** by default). Note that an alert does not instigate any action unless and until it is applied to a node.

Example. To be informed when the level of water in a tank is low, create this alert:

- ***Alert Name***: Tank low
- ***Description***: Tank below 4 feet
- ***Sensor Type***: ***Water depth - tank/reservoir***
- ***Greater/Less Than***: ***Less Than***, with a ***Value (ft)*** of 4
  (the value is the trigger level against which the sensor's reading is compared)
- ***Type of time period***: ***Rolling Time Period***, with 24 ***Hours***

If the tank level continues to remain below 4 feet, you will receive the alert message once every 24 hours.

Box	What to enter
Alert Name	A short user-friendly name, for example ***Tank low***. Each alert needs a different name. The name is the alert's title in the app and appears in WhatsApp messages.
Description	The condition in a few words, for example ***Tank below 4 feet***. This phrase is used in messages that the alert sends to users.
Sensor Type	What is being measured: ***Water flow (pulse)***, ***Water depth - tank/reservoir***, ***Temperature - water***, ***Temperature - ambient***, ***Humidity***, ***LUX*** (light), ***Soil temperature***, ***Soil EC***, ***Soil salinity***, ***Soil TDS***, ***Soil moisture*** or ***Temperature - internal*** (the temperature inside the node's enclosure).
Greater/Less Than	Whether the alert is sent when the sensor's reading is above the value (***Greater Than***) or below it (***Less Than***). A reading equal to the value does not send it.
Value	The trigger level: a number in your own units for that type of sensor, as chosen under Settings >Units. The box shows the unit, for example ***Value (ft)***.
Type of time period	***Rolling Time Period***, with a whole number of ***Hours*** (at least 1), or ***Specified Hours of the Day***, with the hour at which checking starts each day (***From***) and the hour at which it stops (***To***). See Section 5 for detailed descriptions.
Applies to:	For information only. Nothing is entered here. Once the alert has been applied to nodes, this lists each node and sensor it monitors, for example ***North Field: Tank (depth sensor 2)***.

4. Step 2: Apply the alert to a node (Settings >Nodes)

Do this for each node to which the alert applies.

1. Go to Settings >Nodes and click the node's name. The node's settings will open.
2. In the section ***Alerts***, make sure that ***Enable/Disable alerts for this node*** is set to ***Enable***. If it is set to ***Disable***, none of the node's alerts will be sent.
3. Under ***Alerts that apply to this node***, click on ***Add alert***. The dropdown box that appears lists all alerts that have been created. Check the box next to the alert that you want to add.
4. A Cormit field node can connect to two water meters and to two depth sensors. So, for alerts applying to these types of sensors, you will need to choose which water meter or which depth sensor the alert is to watch, in the box to its right, under ***Sensors***. For example: ***Tank (depth sensor 2)***, or ***Water meter 1*** for a meter that has no name. Water temperature is measured within each depth sensor's probe, so a water-temperature alert is associated with a depth sensor.
5. To watch both of a node's water meters, and/or both of its depth sensors, add the alert twice and choose a different sensor the second time.
6. Click ***Save*** at the bottom of the page.

Note that the ***Sensors*** box always offers both water meters, or both depth sensors, even if only one is connected. Make sure to choose the one that is connected. Cormit cannot always tell which is connected: a water meter that is not connected reports no water used, just as a connected meter does when no water is flowing.

Cormit will not save the settings while a line shows ***Sensor is required*** (no sensor has been chosen) or ***This alert is already in the list*** (the same alert appears twice on the same sensor).

Choose the sensor, or click ***Remove*** to delete the line. If you leave the page through a link or a menu before saving, Cormit asks whether you want to leave without saving your changes.

5. How Cormit checks an alert

In association with each alert, Cormit checks sensor readings over a stretch of time called the **checking period**, separately for each sensor that the alert applies to.

There are two types of checking periods:

- **Rolling Time Period.** Cormit continuously checks sensor readings looking backwards at every point for a specified number of hours to see if the trigger has been activated.
- **Specified Hours of the Day.** The alert is checked every day but only during a specified window of time. Readings outside those hours are ignored. If the ***To*** hour is earlier than the ***From*** hour, the period runs past midnight: 22:00 to 06:00 runs from 10:00 pm until 6:00 am the next morning. The same hour in both boxes makes the period a whole day.

The way Cormit compares readings with the trigger level to see if the alert condition has been met depends on the sensor type: for water flow, the cumulative water flow through the meter during the checking period; for water depth, the latest reading; for every other type, the hourly average reading during the checking period. A water-flow alert set to ***Greater Than*** therefore tells you when the water used in a period exceeds the trigger level; the alert is sent as soon as the flow exceeds the trigger level (in other words, Cormit does not wait until the end of the checking period to send the alert). One set to ***Less Than*** is checked at every reading in the same way when it has a ***Rolling Time Period***. With ***Specified Hours of the Day***, Cormit waits until the end of the window to know for sure that less water than the trigger level was used. For most types the comparison uses an average, so a brief rise or fall may not send the alert.

After an alert message has been sent, no further message is sent while the condition lasts, except for a reminder once every checking period: for example, every 2 hours with a 2-hour ***Rolling Time Period***, or once a day with ***Specified Hours of the Day***. With a ***Rolling Time Period***, if the measurement returns to normal and then crosses the trigger level again, a new message is sent at once; with ***Specified Hours of the Day***, at most one message is sent each day. Changing an alert, or switching it off and on again, starts new checking periods on all of its nodes. If a node sends no readings during a period, its alerts are not sent for that period.

6. Who is told, and how

Who. All users to whom the administrator has given access to the node.

In the app. Every alert appears under the bell at the top of the dashboard and on the Notifications page (***See all Notifications***), with the type ***Node alert***. It shows the alert's name, the node's name, and a line such as:

> Tank below 4 feet on North Field, Tank (depth sensor 2)

The sensor name is provided in the alert message only for water flow, water depth and water temperature because a node can have two of each of these types of sensors.

By text message and WhatsApp. Each user switches ***SMS*** and ***WhatsApp*** on or off under Settings >Notifications. For a new user, text messages are switched on and WhatsApp messages are switched off; each user can change either. Cormit does not send alerts by email.

Example: A text message reads:

> Cormit Alert: Tank below 4 feet
>
> Node name: North Field
> Date: 2026-10-02
> Time: 19:05:00
> Sensor reading: 3.80 ft, Tank (depth sensor 2)
>
> This is a user-generated alert.

The date and time are when the alert was activated, in the node's time zone and on the 24-hour clock; for a water-flow ***Less Than*** alert with ***Specified Hours of the Day***, they are those of the end of the window. The ***Sensor reading*** is the figure Cormit compared with the trigger level: the latest depth, the water used in the period, or the average during the period. It is rounded to two decimal places for water depth and to one for everything else. A WhatsApp message gives the alert's name, the node's name, the date and time, and the same reading.

7. Changing, switching off and deleting alerts

- **To change an alert,** click the pencil icon on its line in Settings >Alerts, make the change and click ***Save***. Once an alert has been applied to a node, its ***Sensor Type*** cannot be changed from another type to water flow, water depth or water temperature. An alert of those types must be told, on each node, which water meter or depth sensor to watch, and that was never chosen for this alert. If you try, Cormit shows: ***Remove this alert from its nodes, or create a new alert, to change it to this kind of measurement.***
- **To switch an alert off <u>on every node</u>,** use the switch on its line in Settings >Alerts. Its ***Status*** changes to ***Disabled***.
- **To switch off <u>all of a single node's</u> alerts,** set ***Enable/Disable alerts for this node*** to ***Disable*** in the node's settings and click ***Save***, or use the same switch on the map page (***Alerts - enable/disable*** in the node's details panel, or ***Alerts*** in its pop-up), which takes effect at once. Note that while ***Disable*** is selected, ***Communication lost*** notices for the node are also not sent. However, Cormit's other notices still go out.
- **To remove <u>an alert from one node</u>,** click ***Remove*** on its line in the node's settings, then ***Save***.
- **To delete an alert,** click the trash icon on its line in Settings >Alerts and confirm with ***Delete***. It is removed from every node.

Besides your alerts, Cormit sends notices of its own (*i.e.*, not set up by an administrator), such as ***Communication lost*** when it stops receiving readings from a node, and notices about irrigation. Their text messages end with ***This is a Cormit-generated notice.*** instead of ***This is a user-generated alert.***

8. If an alert does not arrive

- Is the alert switched on? Its ***Status*** in Settings >Alerts should read ***Enabled***.
- Is it applied to the node, and to the right sensor? The ***Applies to:*** list in the alert's editor (pencil icon) shows where it is applied.

- Does the node have a sensor for the alert's ***Sensor Type***? The ***Add alert*** box lists every alert, including types that the node does not measure, and those are never sent.
- Is ***Enable/Disable alerts for this node*** set to ***Enable***, and do you have access to the node?
- Was the condition met during the alert's hours, in the node's time zone, by the figure that Cormit compares (an average, for most types)? With ***Specified Hours of the Day***, a water-flow ***Less Than*** alert arrives only after the window ends.
- Has the alert already been sent in this checking period?
- Is the node sending readings?
- For text and WhatsApp messages: is a cell phone number in your profile, and is ***SMS*** or ***WhatsApp*** switched on under Settings >Notifications?