
alarms override everything else

Posted by MBroom - 2014/01/16 14:13

Starting with v2.12 build 136, every time an alarm pops up, it takes the active window for itself, interrupting whatever I'm typing (or whatever else I'm doing). Once I realize that, I restore focus to what I doing, but the alarm takes it back again a moment later. That's true even when what I've done is use the alarm's context menu to open the Edit window for that alarm.

Shortly after b136 came out, I read here a week or more ago that unchecking the Advanced Options box for Keep alarm always on top would stop that behavior, that it doesn't do so. (I looked for that thread to see if there was something else to try, but couldn't find it.)

I don't know why it should matter, but I'm running Windows XP SP3.

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Re: alarms override everything else

Posted by Rainy - 2014/01/17 06:09

I cannot reproduce this. I tried it in WinXP but if I have the focus e.g. in notepad it stays there even when the alarm pops up. You can try to disable the "Shoe due to the event" setting. It will stop the alarm from updating the window every minute.

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Re: alarms override everything else

Posted by MBroom - 2014/01/17 16:55

"Shoe due to the event" was NOT checked. Under Alarm, the only checks are for "Show alarm start time" and "Show alarm location"; under Event List, the only checks are for "Show event start time" and "Age from start of week."

Can it be XP-related even if this never happened until I updated recently from the last stable build (129??)?

Since this happens consistently rather than randomly, has Rainlendar a way to log this behavior?

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Re: alarms override everything else

Posted by Rainy - 2014/01/18 02:34

Rainlendar does log when a window gets a focus but it can't tell what caused the focus to change. You can run Rainlendar in the debug mode and check from the debug log if the alarm window is constantly receiving the focus.

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Re: alarms override everything else

Posted by MBroom - 2014/01/20 13:29

Just installed 1.12.1. It does NOT display the behavior I was describing. Apparently, something you did inadvertently caused the problem, and something else you did inadvertently fixed the problem. Thanks!

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Re: alarms override everything else

Posted by MBroom - 2014/01/21 20:22

CORRECTION: I thought the problem had disappeared, but either it didn't or else it's returned. I can click to change the focus elsewhere, but an active alarm will relentlessly retake the focus after a second or less -- unless I have a context menu open, in which event it waits until the context menu is cleared. Of course, I CAN put off the problem by snoozing

the alarm(s), but I'd rather be able to keep the alarm visible if I'm trying to finish something else before attending to it.

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Re: alarms override everything else

Posted by Rainy - 2014/01/26 03:26

I wonder if this is somehow specific to your system. Do you have any 3rd party applications installed which affect the windows? I don't think I've received any other reports related to this so it doesn't seem to happen with many users. I still do most of the development in WinXP so this should not be related to the operating system either.

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Re: alarms override everything else

Posted by MBroom - 2014/01/26 09:29

For the last few weeks, every time I logged into Windows, as the startup programs loaded a message popped up that I had previously only saw when I was using Internet Explorer: "Do you want to allow software such as ActiveXcontrols and plug-ins to run?" (an IE setting I had deliberately chosen).

Since I hadn't run Internet Explorer (and only use it when a site demands it), I had been clicking No.

LAST NIGHT I finally made the necessary connections: I only started getting that message after installing 2.11 136, and it popped up at about the moment during startup that Rainlendar opened.

Then I remembered that I'd clicked Yes a few times last week and that also a few times last week alarms were grabbing focus.

This morning, I clicked Yes instead of No. A test alarm is sitting quietly on my screen. That seems to be a fix.

Does this surprise you? Is it useful for you?

Ideally, you can make the popup message go away. If not or until then, the workaround is good enough.

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Re: alarms override everything else

Posted by MBroom - 2014/01/26 10:28

I have to take back part of the preceding message. It WAS true when I wrote it, but then Rainlendar reverted to the previous behavior. In the meantime, I did nothing that I wasn't doing all morning (looking at Web pages in Firefox, sending email messages).

I then closed Rainlendar and restarted it, and now (as earlier this morning) an alarm is up but NOT taking focus.

By the way, that stray "Do you want to allow..." message only appears on Windows startup. It does NOT reappear if I close Rainlendar and then re-start it.

So maybe the workaround is to close and re-open Rainlendar? I'll let you know.

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Re: alarms override everything else

Posted by Rainy - 2014/01/26 10:52

Did you use the installer which is on this website? Rainlendar has nothing to do with ActiveX controls or browser plugins so the prompt is not related to it. Do not download Rainlendar from any 3rd party site since event the "well respected" download sites are nowadays bundling adware with their custom installers. If you get suspicious messages at the startup I suggest that you do a virus and malware scan on your computer.

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Re: alarms override everything else

Posted by MBroom - 2014/01/26 11:50

I did download the new version from your site. This morning's scan with Kaspersky PURE found no threats. Helpful to know the ActiveX popup was coincidental, though I still wonder what it might connect to with Internet Explorer not running.

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Re: alarms override everything else

Posted by MBroom - 2014/01/26 20:00

I usually have Firefox (3.6.28, because my AV program doesn't work well with later versions) minimized when not in use. However -- latest discovery -- if I close Firefox, Rainlendar alarms don't keep the focus. If I open Firefox again, the alarms again take back the focus.

Does that tell you anything useful?

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Re: alarms override everything else

Posted by Rainy - 2014/01/28 11:43

Not really. I have Firefox also running almost all the time and I haven't seen this behaviour. It could be some extension that you have but I can't really see how anything in Firefox would change the focus in another application.

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