**Reading 4 SW**; Berks County, PA; Lat 40.316251, Lon -75.988661, Elev 320 feet ASL

CoCoRaHS ID: PA-BR-2, Reading 3.5 SW; CWOP ID: FW1703 Observation time: 2359 EST

Observer in Charge: Jeffrey R. Stoudt

Period of Record: Precipitation/Snow - January 1983, Temperatures - June 1984

**May 2025**

DAILY DETAILS (Sundays, monthly extremes in **bold**)

 TEMPERATURES

DAY MAX MIN OBS PCPN SNOW DEPTH REMARKS (all times are military EST)

 1 83 46 64

 2 **87** 61 65 0.02 Light showers predawn, early aft, post-dusk

 3 84 60 64 0.93 (T-)showers toward dusk and afterward

 **4** 72 **63** 63 0.26 Ocnl light rain, mod showers mostly daylight

 5 68 62 62 0.48 Few showers, mainly midday to early aft’n

 6 78 59 59 0.35 Showers predawn, dawn; TSTM sideswipe E mid-aft

 7 76 54 59

 8 82 55 58 0.93 Early eve TSTMs with some downpours, then rain

 9 58 49 **49** **1.63** Rain, heavy at times AM, tapering afternoon

10 76 47 55

**11** 81 47 54

12 84 48 **67**

13 70 62 62 0.74 Frequent rain/drizzle, mostly light

14 65 59 62 0.53 Periods of rain/drizzle, mostly AM

15 77 62 62 0.04 Occasional light rain/drizzle till early PM

16 82 59 66 0.30 Early dense fog; heavy TSTMs late AM largely…

17 **87** **63** 64 T Few drops late evening …skirted around

**18** 76 62 63

19 72 52 52

20 70 46 56

21 58 50 50 0.70 Rain/drizzle, mostly post-dusk

22 **56** 50 510.45 Rain/drizzle, most rain midday

23 69 51 51 0.01 Sprinkles before dawn; in vicinity PM

24 67 49 53 0.01 Showers in vicinity afternoon

**25** 71 46 53

26 77 **45** 54 Pleasant Memoria Day after cool start

27 74 51 57 T Light rain at midnight LST

28 58 52 54 0.64 Rain/drizzle, mostly light, most of date

29 74 54 63 0.01 Little leftover rain before dawn

30 81 61 61 0.87 Rain before dawn; rain after dusk, one thunder

31 73 51 51 0.29 Light rain before 0800; brief light showers PM

SUM 2286 1766 9.19 0.0 0

MONTHLY STATISTICS

Average Monthly Temperature (Dep): 63.9 (+1.1)

Average Maximum Temperature (Dep): 73.7 (-0.2)

Average Minimum Temperature (Dep): 54.0 (+2.3)

Extreme Daily High Max Temp (Dep): 87 (-4) on 2,17 (record 98 on 30 May 1987)

Extreme Daily High Minimum Temp: 63 on 4th,17th (record 72 on 30 May 2011)+

Extreme Daily Low Min Temp (Dep): 45 (+8) on 26th (record 31 on 14 May 1996)

Extreme Daily Low Maximum Temp: 56 on 22nd (record 48 on 09 May 2020)

Heating Degree Days (Season): 89 (4529)

Cooling Degree Days (Season): 62 (78)

+ Most recent of more than one occurrence

 -- more --

Total Monthly Precipitation (Dep): 9.19 (+5.04)

Total Annual Pcpn through Month: 21.12 (+2.15)

Greatest Calendar Day Pcpn: 1.63 on 9th (record 3.12 19 May 1988)

Greatest Floating 24-Hour Pcpn: 2.56 on 8th-9th (rec 4.10 04-05 May 1989)

Total Monthly Snowfall (Dep): 0.0 (-0.0)

Total Season Snowfall (Dep): 14.9 (-13.4)

Greatest Calendar Day Snowfall: 0.0 on (record 0.0 on 09 May 2020)\*

Greatest Floating 24-Hour Snowfl: 0.0 on (rec 0.0 on 09-09 May 2020)\*

Maximum Depth of Snow/Ice: 0 on \* few flurries above 400’ ASL

Days with Hail: 0

Days with Thunder (Dep): 5 (-0)

Highest Wind Gust (MPH): 24 on 18th

Maximum Barometric Pressure: 30.32 on 27th

Minimum Barometric Pressure: 29.28 on 31st

HIGHLIGHTS

May 2025 was a backslider temperature-wise. The first 18 days were all warmer than normal, save for one rain-cooled high of 58 on the 9th, and yielded an average of 66.8, which is about 6 degrees above normal for the first 18 days. Then the pattern reversed such that 12 of the last 13 days averaged cooler than normal, the exception by only 3 degrees, and resulted in a 13-day average of 59.9. This sharp cooling trend is more typical of a fall month. This resulted in a final average dragged down to 63.9 (+1.1). The month’s highest of 87 occurred early on the 2nd and then was matched on the 17th. The month’s warmest low of 63 occurred on the 4th and 17th. Conversely, the lowest of 45 and coolest high of 56 occurred rather late on the 26th and 22nd respectively. The timing of these four monthly extremes was opposite of what is normal for a month of May. The dominance of overcast skies and frequent rain prevented both very warm and very cool temperatures all month. The average of the daily highs of 73.7 was low-end normal (-0.2) while the daily lows average of 54.0 was 2.3 above normal. Many diurnal ranges were narrow. Even so, a few mainly clear and tranquil days fostered considerable nocturnal cooling followed by robust rebounds by day. One such was Memorial Day, the 26th, with low/high of 45/77. But that low of 45 became a new warmest May lowest, previously 44 on 12 May 2012. The official Reading PA (RDG) average was 63.4 (+0.9) with extremes of 44/86. May 2024 at Reading SW was warmer at 66.5 with extremes of 43/91.

May 2025 was frequently wet and at times soggy. Total rainfall of 9.19” (+5.04) was third most in 43 years to 10.39 in 2019 and 12.66 in 1989. Nineteen days brought measurable rain with no more than three consecutive rain free days and tied May 2017 for the most such during a month of May. Rainfall was favorably distributed through the month with the greatest day amount of only 1.63” on the 9th. Said distribution was very favorable for infiltration and no worse than areal minor flooding while mitigating longstanding severe drought to moderate drought. May 2024 brought less than 1/3 of this May’s rain, 3.02”. Total May rainfalls in Berks County ranged mostly from 8.5 to nearly 12.5 inches with the densest clustering between 10.0 and 11.0 inches and included exactly 10.00” at RDG. Number of and duration of thunderstorm downpours accounted for much of the variability. Five days with audible thunder this May at Reading 4 SW is right on average for May. Areal damaging thunderstorms late morning of the 16th skirted around and avoided Reading 4 SW.

RANKINGS AND EXTREMES FOR THIS MONTH (MAY)

Avg Temp 63.9 – 16th warmest of 41 (57.7 in 2005 to 68.4 in 2015)

Precip 9.19 – 3rd wettest of 43 (0.25 in 2023 to 12.66 in 1989)

Snowfall 0.0 – Least of 43 Last widespread May flurries, 9 May 1977

Statistical spring (months MAM) averaged 55.8 (+3.1) in temperature, in which all three months were slightly or moderately warmer than average, and included extremes of 19 on 2 March and 87 on 29 March plus two days in May. Precipitation totaled 17.55” (+3.93), of which over half came during May (9.19”). However, the rainiest day was Monday 31 March with 2.29” of rain. This MAM cluster was entirely devoid of wintry precipitation.