**EASTER CLIMATOLOGY ‑‑ READING 4 SW, PA**

YEAR DATE TEMPS PCPN/SNOW YEAR DATE TEMPS PCPN/SNOW

1983 4/03 ? 0.92

1984 4/22 ? 0.15 1985 4/07 57/39 T

1986 3/30 84/44 1987 4/19 79/55 T

1988 4/03 63/51 T 1989 3/26 68/37

1990 4/15 64/47 0.54 1991 3/31 54/20

1992 4/19 48/42 T 1993 4/11 59/42 0.02

1994 4/03 67/47 0.12 1995 4/16 68/34

1996 4/07 40/33 0.58/ T 1997 3/30 70/53 0.04

1998 4/12 67/32 1999 4/04 77/48 0.22

2000 4/23 55/44 2001 4/15 67/41 0.34

2002 3/31 60/47 0.25 2003 4/20 69/37

2004 4/11 50/44 0.04 2005 3/27 49/40 0.46

2006 4/16 70/49 2007 4/08 42/30 T / T

2008 3/23 48/27 2009 4/12 52/35

2010 4/04 75/49 2011 4/24 80/60 0.82

2012 4/08 71/33 2013 3/31 56/35 0.10

2014 4/20 65/40 2015 4/05 65/41

2016 3/27 58/43 0.01 2017 4/16 87/54 0.04

2018 4/01 60/42 T 2019 4/21 71/55

2020 4/12 66/32 0.13 2021 4/04 69/39

2022 4/17 52/33 T 2023 4/09

**The snowy Easter of 1970**: Rain, early this Easter morning, **29 March**, changed to snow during the 6 AM hour while the traditional Easter Dawn service atop Mount Penn was in progress. Snow continued till near dusk, accumulating about a half foot. The night became clear and calm. Most of the snow melted the next day after a record breaking low of 10 for Reading PA, coldest so late, early that morning. This is the only Easter Sunday since at least 1898 in Reading to have more than a slight coating of snow on the ground from either new or old snow for most of the day.

**The hot Easter of 1976:** An unusually early heat wave baked the region from 17 to 20 April 1976 and peaked on Easter Sunday **18 April**. While this was several years prior to regular observations at Reading 4 SW, some casual observations were done. Cognizant of unusual heat, observer carried a typical “hardware store” thermometer with known bias to extended family Easter afternoon gathering at nearby West Reading, 2.5 miles ENE of Reading 4 SW at similar elevation. Adjusting for bias, the thermometer at mid-afternoon showed a maximum of 97°F under a porch roof overhang on the east side of the house, a very well shaded site. Quite likely, the temperature reached 98 or 99 at a location of standard siting with adequate shielding. The RDG Airport FAA (not the official climate site for Reading area at the time) reported 97 for the 2 PM and 3 PM EST hourly observations. Intra-hourly RDG observations were not available.

**The rainy, almost icy, Easter of 1978**: A cold rain began before dawn this Easter, **26 March**, and continued, heavy at times, all day. A casual wedge gauge catch showed nearly 3.5 inches. Temperatures hovered in mid 30s. The 9 AM view of Mount Penn above the city showed a sharp ice line near the top with heavy glaze on the highest 200 feet. The long-running (since 1914) Easter Dawn service, which is held at the summit, was canceled for the first time for any reason. The only cancelation since was 2020 due to Covid-19.