|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| • | **LOCAL CLIMATOLOGICAL DATA**  **READING 4 SW, PENNSYLVANIA 2006 ANNUAL SUMMARY** |

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| MONTH | ELEVATION 320 FEET MSL LATITUDE 40°19.0'N  OBSERVATION TIME (LMT): 24:00  TEMPERATURES (53) PRECIPITATION  EXTREME TOTAL DEGREE DAYS MONTH MAX  MAX MIN MAX MIN AVG HEATNG COOLNG GROWNG TOTAL 1-DAY | | | | | | | | | | LONGITUDE 75°59.3'W  (IN.) - SNOWFALL (IN.) -  MAX MONTH MAX MAX  24-HR TOTAL 1-DAY 24-HR | | | | MONTH |
| JAN | 62 | 19 | 48.2 | 31.0 | 39.6 | 778 |  |  | 5.32 | 1.35 | 1.43 | 0.3 | 0.3 | 0.3 | JAN |
| FEB | 61 | 14 | 43.0 | 25.9 | 34.4 | 847 |  |  | 2.53 | 0.90 | 0.93 | 11.9 | 7.9 | 11.3 | FEB |
| MAR | 77 | 23 | 53.1 | 34.1 | 43.6 | 654 |  | 100 | 0.69 | 0.33 | 0.33 |  |  |  | MAR |
| APR | 84 | 30 | 67.0 | 42.9 | 55.0 | 294 | 3 | 268 | 5.03 | 1.92 | 1.96 | 0.1 | 0.1 | 0.1 | APR |
| MAY | 93 | 38 | 74.5 | 51.5 | 63.0 | 117 | 66 | 435 | 1.35 | 0.67 | 0.67 |  |  |  | MAY |
| JUN | 93 | 52 | 81.1 | 62.2 | 71.7 | 5 | 211 | 643 | 9.22 | 2.28 | 2.66 |  |  |  | JUN |
| JUL | 95 | 57 | 87.8 | 68.8 | 78.3 |  | 421 | 841 | 5.28 | 1.08 | 1.33 |  |  |  | JUL |
| AUG | 97 | 52 | 85.2 | 65.6 | 75.4 |  | 331 | 770 | 6.96 | 3.32 | 3.35 |  |  |  | AUG |
| SEP | 85 | 41 | 73.2 | 56.2 | 64.7 | 66 | 65 | 461 | 8.99 | 3.86 | 3.86 |  |  |  | SEP |
| OCT | 82 | 32 | 64.6 | 44.0 | 54.3 | 335 | 10 | 255 | 4.17 | 1.40 | 1.96 |  |  |  | OCT |
| NOV | 72 | 25 | 58.1 | 40.9 | 49.5 | 455 |  | 154 | 6.12 | 2.56 | 2.57 |  |  |  | NOV |
| DEC | 73 | 21 | 50.9 | 32.5 | 41.7 | 716 |  |  | 2.39 | 0.96 | 1.41 |  |  |  | DEC |
| YEAR | 97 | 14 | 65.7 | 46.4 | 56.1 | 4267 | 1107 | 3927 | 58.05 | 3.86 | 3.86 | 12.3 | 7.9 | 11.3 | YEAR |

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| ANNUAL TEMPERATURE EXTREMES AND FREEZE DATA. | . . |  |  |
| HIGHEST MAXIMUM TEMPERATURE, DATE(S) • | 97, | 8/01 | 8/03 |
| LOWEST MAXIMUM TEMPERATURE, DATE(S) | 29, | 2/19 |  |
| HIGHEST MINIMUM TEMPERATURE, DATE(S) | 81, | 8/02 |  |
| LOWEST MINIMUM TEMPERATURE, DATE(S) | 14, | 2/19 |  |
| HIGHEST AVERAGE TEMPERATURE, DATE(S) | 89, | 8/02 |  |
| LOWEST AVERAGE TEMPERATURE, DATE(S) | 22, | 2/19 |  |
| NO. OF DAYS WITH MINIMUM OF 32 OR BELOW ..: | 86 |  |  |
| NO. OF DAYS WITH MAXIMUM OF 32 OR BELOW ..: | 4 |  |  |
| NO. OF DAYS WITH MINIMUM OF 0 OR BELOW ...: | 0 |  |  |
| NO. OF DAYS WITH MAXIMUM OF 90 OR ABOVE ..: | 21 |  |  |
| TEMPERATURE & DATE OF LAST SPRING FREEZE .: |  | 4/10 |  |
| TEMPERATURE & DATE OF FIRST FALL FREEZE ..: |  | 10/14 |  |
| NO. OF DAYS BETWEEN (GROWING SEASON) • | 187 |  |  |

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| ANNUAL PRECIPITATION EXTREMES. . .  NO. OF DAYS WITH A TRACE OF PRECIPITATION : | 40 |
| NO. OF DAYS WITH 0.01 TO 0.09 IN. OF PCPN : | 53 |
| NO. OF DAYS WITH 0.10 TO 0.49 IN. OF PCPN : | 46 |
| NO. OF DAYS WITH 0.50 TO 0.99 IN. OF PCPN : | 20 |
| NO. OF DAYS WITH 1.00 TO 1.99 IN. OF PCPN : | 8 |
| NO. OF DAYS WITH 2.00 OR MORE IN. OF PCPN : | 6 |
| MAXIMUM ONE-DAY PRECIPITATION, DATE(S) ...: | 3.86, 9/28 |
| MAXIMUM FLOATING 24-HOUR PCPN, DATE(S) ...: | 3.86, 9/28-28 |
| NO. OF DAYS WITH A TRACE OF SNOWFALL • | 19 |
| NO. OF DAYS WITH 0.1 TO 0.9 IN. OF SNOW ..: | 4 |
| NO. OF DAYS WITH 1.0 TO 3.9 IN. OF SNOW ..: | 1 |
| NO. OF DAYS WITH 4.0 TO 7.9 IN. OF SNOW ..: | 1 |
| NO. OF DAYS WITH 8.0 OR MORE IN. OF SNOW .: | 0 |
| MAXIMUM ONE-DAY SNOWFALL, DATE(S) | 7.9, 2/12 |
| MAXIMUM FLOATING 24-HOUR SNOW, DATE(S) ...: | 11.3, 2/11-12 |
| NO. OF DAYS WITH 1 IN. OR MORE SNOW COVER : | 5 |
| MAXIMUM DEPTH (IN.) OF SNOW & ICE, DATE ..: | 11, 2/12 |
| DAYS WITH THUNDER | 45 |

•

* A long dry spell that began in late July ended abruptly in late August as   
  three episodes of heavy thunderstorms riding a stationary front drenched the   
  area. The first, around the midnight of 24-25 August, hit hard to the north and

East, and teased Reading 4 SW with only 0.15. However, round two, which

Came during the overnight of the 27th-28th, brought a welcomed 3.57”.

But then round three on the 29th brought 3.04" additional and left much

standing water in the area. Reading 4 SW collected 6.81”, outdoing the June

deluges during the seven-day period ending 29 August.

* September began with the only significant impact from a named tropical storm,   
  Ernesto, during 2006. However, major flooding was averted as the observed total   
  Ernesto rainfall of 2.77" was only about one third of what was possible.
* The greatest calendar day and 24-hour rainfall of 2006 came during the evening   
  of 28 September as a dynamic cold front spawned torrential thunderstorm   
  downpours and flash flooding in the Reading area. Reading 4 SW collected 3.86",   
  approximately 90 percent of which fell in less than two hours.
* September and October were the only two months during 2006 to average at or   
  cooler than normal. After a record low temperature of 25 (23 at KRDG) on 4   
  November, the weather pattern reverted back to above normal warmth, which   
  dominated to the end of the year, and beyond.
* December tied with 1984 for the warmest of 23 at Reading 4 SW, and was keyed   
  by record highs of 73 on the 1st and 65 on the 18th

•

YEAR 2006 HIGHLIGHTS

According to preliminary statistics tabulated at the National Climatic Data   
Center, year 2006 edged 1998 as the warmest year on record. Officially for the   
Reading area, 2006 turned out as tied with one other as eighth warmest since   
1898 with an average annual temperature of 54.8, considerably below the warmest   
of 56.4 from 1998. At Reading 4 SW, year 2006 averaged 56.1, only a little   
below the warmest of 56.5 from 1998. Year 2006 definitely was warm, but it was   
also wet. Precipitation totaled 58.05" which placed fifth wettest year of 24.   
So while warm and wet were dominant in this region, there were still a few cool   
or dry episodes. Highlights are itemized and chronicled below.

* The year beginning set the tone of warm and wet. January averaged 39.6,   
  edging over 1990's 39.5 for a new warmest January since 1985 at Reading 4 SW.   
  Although no extreme warmth was felt, the temperature climbed to 60 or slightly   
  above or 5 different days plus 59 on a few others. Precipitation totaled 5.32   
  inches. While not near the wettest, it was above normal. However, it included   
  no measurable frozen precipitation except for a period of sleet that accumulated   
  briefly to 0.3 inch. The "dead of winter" was unusually thundery with thunder   
  heard in the Reading area on six different days between 31 Dec. 2005 and 4 Feb.
* February brought the only significant snowfall of the year. The snowstorm of   
  11 February into 12 February accounted for 11.3 of the 12.3 inches for the   
  entire year. However, a major warm-up a few days later resulted in a rapid   
  meltdown. The ground became bare of snow again in less than five days.

February also brought the year's coldest temperatures, a modest 14 on the 19th,   
along with the year's coldest maximum temperature of 29.

* March 2006 shall be remembered for a new record for the driest of that month   
  as well as no measurable snowfall. Precipitation totaled only 0.69" at Reading   
  4 SW, far below the previous driest of 2.07" in 1985. The 0.66" at KRDG became   
  the driest of 137 for official Reading area climatology sites.
* The year's first heat wave set in during the Memorial holiday and ended with   
  heavy thunderstorms yielding 2.75" in early June which brought relief from a   
  very dry spring quarter during which only 7.07" fell during those three months.
* An influx of tropical moisture interacting with a complex extra-tropical   
  trough resulted in seven days in late June during which torrential downpours   
  swamped or flooded the region. Reading 4 SW collected 5.61" during the seven   
  days ending 28 June, which was quite paltry compared to some nearby areas.   
  Seven day totals of 10 to 16 inches were general a short distance to the west   
  and northwest, covering most of the northwestern half of Berks County. Runoff   
  resulted in a main-stem Schuylkill River crest of slightly more than 10 feet   
  over flood stage at the Reading gauging station on 28 June.
* The hottest weather of 2006 came during early August when maximum temperatures   
  the first three days reached 97, 96, And 97. But the minimums were more   
  anomalous - 76, 81, and 79 for the same three days.

•

•

•

•

•