**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

**December 2021**

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

TEMPERATURES

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

1. 50 32 42 0.04 Light rain after 2150

2 59 41 49 0.12 Light rain before dawn; sprinkles near dusk

3 51 38 41

4 54 36 39 0.01 Light rain wee hours

**5** 49 30 45 T Sprinkle near midnight

6 60 37 37 0.05 Occasional sprinkles; shower 1825-1835

7 **38** 31 32

8 41 30 34 T T Very light wet flakes, drizzle early evening

9 41 27 35

10 50 34 46

11 **66** 44 44 **0.20** Showers mid-morning, early eve; briefly heavy

**12** 49 30 30

13 55 28 33

14 49 30 30

15 57 26 53

16 62 **49** **60** T Few drops 2145-2155

17 61 41 44

18 45 39 43 0.10 Occasional light rain, drizzle mostly AM

**19** 44 25 **25** 0.02 Occasional light rain, drizzle before dawn

20 40 **20** 27

21 42 22 36 0.03 Light rain, drizzle after 2100

22 47 31 31 0.04 Light rain, drizzle before dawn

23 **38** 26 33

24 49 30 41 0.01 T Sleet, snow pellets wee hours

25 54 39 47 0.10 Light rain early daylight, early evening

**26** 53 37 37

27 **38** 32 36 0.07 T Light wet snow midday

28 48 34 42 0.01 Little rain early evening

29 52 40 45 0.11 Light rain, embedded heavy shower, wee hours

30 53 44 50 0.09 Light rain wee hours; intermittent drizzle

31 52 48 50 0.01 Intermittent drizzle

SUM 1553 1051 1.01 T 0

MONTHLY STATISTICS

Average Monthly Temperature (Dep): 42.0 (+5.7)

Average Maximum Temperature (Dep): 50.1 (+6.1)

Average Minimum Temperature (Dep): 33.9 (+5.1)

Extreme Daily High Max Temp (Dep): 66 (+4) on 11th (record 77 on 29 Dec 1984)

Extreme Daily High Minimum Temp: 49 on 16th (record 60 on 22 Dec 2013)

Extreme Daily Low Min Temp (Dep): 20 (+6) on 20th (record -2 on 24 Dec 1989)

Extreme Daily Low Maximum Temp: 38 on 7th,23d,27th (record 16 on 26 Dec 1985)

Heating Degree Days (Season): 706 (1523)

Cooling Degree Days (Season): 0 (1302)

+ Most recent of more than one occurrence

-- more --

Total Monthly Precipitation (Dep): 1.01 (-3.24)

Total Annual Pcpn through Month: 50.80 (-1.99)

Greatest Calendar Day Pcpn: 0.20 on 11th (record 3.27 on 12 Dec 1983)

Greatest Floating 24-Hour Pcpn: 0.20 on 11-11th (rec 3.90 on 04-05 Dec 1993)

Total Monthly Snowfall (Dep): T (-4.2)

Total Season Snowfall (Dep): T (-4.9)

Greatest Calendar Day Snowfall: T on 27th+ (record 8.5 on 05 Dec 2005)

Greatest Floating 24-Hour Snowfl: T on 27-27th+ (rec 10.0 on 27-28 Dec 1990)

Maximum Depth of Snow/Ice: T on 24th

Days with Hail: 0

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

Highest Wind Gust (MPH): 33 on 11th

Maximum Barometric Pressure: 30.66 on 15th

Minimum Barometric Pressure: 29.50 on 25th

HIGHLIGHTS

December 2021 was a wild month in many regions of the USA with severe and even disastrous weather, including killer tornadoes. However, December was benign in the region which includes Reading 4 SW. And benign could mean mild and dry, which it did. December 2021 was second warmest and also second driest during 39 years of record at Reading 4 SW. The final average temperature of 42.0 was 5.7 degrees warmer than normal but a distant second to December 2015 which averaged 47.5. It replaced 41.7 from 1984 and 2006 for second place. Following a chilly November, December averaged only 0.4 cooler despite an average net cooling of 8.5 degrees. November was cooler in some respects. November contained 18 days with freezing minimum temperatures versus only 16 during December. November’s “warmest” daily minimum of 40 was exceeded on seven days during December, including 49 on the 16th and 48 on the 31st. Even the final average of the daily minimums of 33.9 considerably exceeded November’s corresponding average of 31.7. This December’s extremes of 20/66 were both a few degrees warmer than their respective averages. Four days warmed to at least 60, and 17 to at least 50. The coolest daily high of 38 (on three days) came during a month which usually contains at least one day that fails to climb above 32. December 2020 was seasonably chilly with average of 36.5. The official December average for Reading PA (RDG) was 41.6, third warmest since 1898, and included extremes of 19/66. Two record high maxes were set: 66 on 11th and 62 on 16th, plus two high mins: 44 on 30th and 49 on 31st.

December 2021 precipitation amounted to only 1.01”, 24% of normal, and replaced 1.61 from 1989 for second place, even though half the days (16) had at least 0.01. However, the “wettest” day, the 11th, brought only 0.20. December 1998 remains driest by far at 0.65. The snow dearth, which began on 28 February when last winter’s snow blitz ended, continued through December with only traces on three days. December 2020 brought high-end normal precipitation of 4.61 (+0.35) which included the melt of 9.8” of snow/sleet. Large precipitation and snow deficiencies were widespread throughout Berks County with many places failing to accrue 1.00 inch. Those which exceeded 1.00 did so by not much. The 0.68 at RDG officially placed fifth driest since 1869.

RANKINGS AND EXTREMES FOR THIS MONTH (DECEMBER)

Avg Temp 42.0 – 2nd warmest of 38 (23.8 in 1989 to 47.5 in 2015)

Precip 1.01 – 2nd driest of 39 (0.65 in 1998 to 11.76 in 1983)

Snowfall T – Least (9-way) of 39 (T in 9 years to 17.3 in 1995)

The cooling year ended 31 December with 1302 cooling degree days (CDD), virtually tying 2020’s 1304 CDD, well above the average of 37 cooling years which is 1131 CDD and 7th greatest of 37. The first CDD came quite early on 26 March, and the last CDD came on 16 October. August, not July, contributed the most with 392 CDD.