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

**March 2022**

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

 TEMPERATURES

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

 1 49 28 37

 2 56 35 50

 3 50 28 28 0.08 Rain before dawn, mainly 0300 hour

 4 42 **18** 28

 5 53 25 40

 **6** 74 40 **66** 0.02 Sprinkles, 0800-noon

 7 75 44 44 0.19 Showers 1410-2025; TSTM ~2010

 8 48 35 36

 9 39 32 32 0.53 0.3 T Mix of wet snow, rain, sleet 0900-1900

10 52 27 35 Ice fog predawn

11 60 29 43

12 45 20 **20** 0.74 **3.6** **3** Rain predawn–0800; snow 0730-noon; flurries…

**13** **33** 19 29 2 …PM, embedded squall 1500-1530

14 59 26 47 0

15 70 33 49

16 72 38 52

17 60 46 46 0.17 Light rain predawn to forenoon; foggy late eve

18 **76** 44 62 0.01 Dense fog (200’), drizzle till 0830, then sunny

19 75 **52** 56 Scattered showers, TSTMs near dusk missed to N

**20** 56 48 48 T Few drops late afternoon

21 66 38 44

22 60 43 46

23 52 40 40 0.39 Rain late eve; o/w, persistent drizzle

24 48 40 45 0.34 Occasional rain/drizzle after 1300, mostly late

25 57 42 49 0.01 Drizzle before dawn; foggy (200’) 0600-0800

26 53 40 40 T Sprinkle midday; showers of rain/graupel nearby

**27** 43 27 27 T T Showers of wet snow at 1200

28 35 24 26 T T Flurries, embedded snow showers during daylight

29 43 24 26

30 50 23 43 T T Light rain, sleet forenoon

31 70 43 58 **1.00** Showers, TSTMs mostly after dusk

SUM 1720 1051 3.48 3.9 2

MONTHLY STATISTICS

Average Monthly Temperature (Dep): 44.7 (+2.7)

Average Maximum Temperature (Dep): 55.5 (+3.9)

Average Minimum Temperature (Dep): 33.9 (+1.6)

Extreme Daily High Max Temp (Dep): 76 (+2) on 18th (record 89 on 30 Mar 1998)

Extreme Daily High Minimum Temp: 52 on 19th (record 63 on 16 Mar 1990)

Extreme Daily Low Min Temp (Dep): 18 (+2) on 4th (record 5 on 06 Mar 2015)+

Extreme Daily Low Maximum Temp: 33 on 13th (record 25 on 14 Mar 1993)

Heating Degree Days (Season): 620 (4075)

Cooling Degree Days (Season): 0 (0)

+ Most recent of more than one occurrence

 -- more --

Total Monthly Precipitation (Dep): 3.48 (-0.94)

Total Annual Pcpn through Month: 10.44 (-0.31)

Greatest Calendar Day Pcpn: 1.00 on 31st (record 3.12 21 Mar 2000)

Greatest Floating 24-Hour Pcpn: 1.08 on 31st-1st (rec 3.62 21-22 Mar 2000)

Total Monthly Snowfall (Dep): 3.9 (-1.0)

Total Season Snowfall (Dep): 18.1 (-9.7)

Greatest Calendar Day Snowfall: 3.6 on 12th (record 14.0 on 13 Mar 1993)

Greatest Floating 24-Hour Snowfl: 3.6 on 12th-12th (rec 14.1 on 13-14 Mar 1993)

Maximum Depth of Snow/Ice: 3 on 12th

Days with Hail: 0

Days with Thunder (Dep): 2 (+1)

Highest Wind Gust (MPH): 29 on 7th, 31st

Maximum Barometric Pressure: 30.59 on 4th

Minimum Barometric Pressure: 29.40 on 31st

HIGHLIGHTS

March is often a month of abrupt changes between winter cold with some snow and mid-Spring warmth. And this March did not disappoint. Could the true meaning of “March madness” have to do with the fickleness of March weather? While March 2022 contained characteristics of both seasons, the warmer side held a convincing majority. The final average temperature of 44.7 was 2.7 above normal. Cold struck first with a low of 18 on the 4th, the month’s lowest. Warmth answered quickly with highs of 74 and 75 on the 6th and 7th respectively. Officially for Reading PA (RDG), highs of 75 both days scored new date record highs. Beginning with the 7th, weather executed two flips to winter then back to spring. The 9th brought a small slushy accumulation of rain/sleet/snow mix with a high of 39, only to return to 60 on the 11th. Wintry weather fought back even more strongly on the 12th with rain to 3.6” of snow as temperature plummeted to 20 and then a very cold 13th with high of only 33. Then temperature rebounded to 70 on the 15th then 72 on the 16th, a favorable Ides of March outcome. Then mild to warm weather was rather steady until the 26th, with two more days in the middle 70s, including the months highest of 76 on the 18th. Then late winter conditions, including snow flurries and localized dangerous squalls, ruled for four days ahead of another abrupt warmup to 70 on the 31st, which ended with May-like thunderstorms. The cold setback included a high temperature of 35 (34 at RDG) on the 28th which was good enough for a new record cold high for the date. Further, penetrating winds aggravated the chill of this cold snap. Officially, RDG notched a very similar average temperature of 44.6 which included the same low/high of 18/76. March 2021 at Reading 4 SW was less volatile and significantly warmer on average at 45.6 with extremes of 19/80 and only brief traces of snow.

Precipitation prior to the final day was modest with only one day reaching a half inch, 0.74 on the 12th. Through the morning of the 31st, precipitation stood at only 2.48”, much below the monthly norm of 4.42. Exactly 1.00” after 4 PM came almost all from thunderstorms after dusk and significantly narrowed the deficiency with the final total of 3.48. In Berks County, March total precipitation ranged mostly from slightly less than 3.0 to slightly over 4.0. RDG officially collected 3.48, the same as Reading 4 SW. Snowfalls ranged mainly in the range of 2.5 to 5 inches, though high terrain got as much as 8 inches. March 2021 at Reading 4 SW brought only 3.15. Finally, many days this March, including the warm days, were windy, though not extreme, with speeds frequently in the 20s at Reading 4 SW, but gusting to 30- or 40-some mph in nearby open fields during some days, including 46 mph at RDG on the 7th plus four other days gusting to the 40s.

RANKINGS AND EXTREMES FOR THIS MONTH (MARCH)

Avg Temp 44.7 – 8th warmest of 38 (35.9 in 1993 to 52.3 in 2012)

Precip 3.48 – 16th driest of 40 (0.69 in 2006 to 8.26 in 1993)

Snowfall 3.9 – 17th most of 40 (0.0 in 2012 to 16.4 in 1984)