**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

**January 2023**

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

 TEMPERATURES

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

 **1** 55 40 42 Dense fog dissipated soon after year rollover

 2 55 38 48 0.06 Occasional light rain PM

 3 54 **47** 51 0.48 Rain mostly 0830-1330; dense fog evening

 4 **62** 45 **60** 0.01 Fog, drizzle till 0800; sprinkle late evening

5 61 46 47 0.04 Light rain ended after midnight; rain late eve

 6 47 39 39 0.07 Rain dawn till 0900

 7 45 36 36

 **8** 43 30 39

 9 43 34 34 0.08 T 0 Rain, little slush before dawn

10 44 31 32

11 46 27 39

12 55 36 53 0.21 Rain, mostly predawn and post-dusk

13 54 34 34 0.23 Occasional rain till daybreak

14 **34** 27 27

**15** 43 27 27

16 50 **25** 34

17 47 30 39 0.01 Little rain late AM, midday

18 54 37 39

19 41 37 40 0.79 Periods of rain predawn till 2100

20 46 38 40 0.01 Shower at dawn; few drops at times AM

21 40 36 36 T Sprinkles dawn till 0800, almost 0.01

**22** 44 27 36 0.43 T 0 Rain after 1400, mixed with sleet at first

23 40 35 36 0.32 T 0 Period rain with little slush after 0800

24 47 29 29

25 41 28 39 **1.04 2.9 T** Intense midday wet snow > rain; mostly melted

26 46 37 37 T 0 Few raindrops at times afternoon

27 40 **25 25** T T 0 Snow flurries at times midday hours

28 55 **25** 36

**29** 49 31 43

30 55 36 48 0.01 Light rain 2300 hour

31 48 33 33 0.11 T 0 Rain predawn; drizzle, wet snow noon, aft’n

SUM 1484 1046 3.90 2.9 0

MONTHLY STATISTICS

Average Monthly Temperature (Dep): 40.8 (+9.2)

Average Maximum Temperature (Dep): 47.9 (+8.5)

Average Minimum Temperature (Dep): 33.7 (+9.8)

Extreme Daily High Max Temp (Dep): 62 (+1) on 4th (record 71 on 06 Jan 2007)

Extreme Daily High Minimum Temp: 46 on 5th (record 61 on 15 Jan 1995)

Extreme Daily Low Min Temp (Dep): 25 (+17) on 27th+ (record -14 on 21 Jan 1994)

Extreme Daily Low Maximum Temp: 34 on 14th (record 2 on 19 Jan 1994)

Heating Degree Days (Season): 740 (2543)

Cooling Degree Days (Season): 0 (0)

+ Most recent of more than one occurrence

 -- more --

Total Monthly Precipitation (Dep): 3.90 (+0.08)

Total Annual Pcpn through Month: 3.90 (+0.08)

Greatest Calendar Day Pcpn: 1.04 on 25th (record 3.02 on 23 Jan 2016) Greatest Floating 24-Hour Pcpn: 1.04 on 25-25th (rec 3.20 on 22-23 Jan 2016)

Total Monthly Snowfall (Dep): 2.9 (-6.3)

Total Season Snowfall (Dep): 3.4 (-10.7)

Greatest Calendar Day Snowfall: 2.9 on 25th (record 24.6 on 23 Jan 2016)

Greatest Floating 24-Hour Snowfl: 2.9 on 25th-25th (rec 28.0 on 07-08 Jan 1996)

Maximum Depth of Snow/Ice: 3 on 25th (then melted quickly)

Days with Hail: 0

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

Highest Wind Gust (MPH): 25 on 14th

Maximum Barometric Pressure: 30.34 on 8th

Minimum Barometric Pressure: 29.49 on 26th

HIGHLIGHTS

January 2023, like January 2022, began very mild. But unlike a year ago, when January turned very cold after the 2nd, this January continued mild all month long, easing down only slightly after first seven days which were without a freezing temperature. Only one day (14th) was below normal, by 1 degree. The final average of 40.8 (+9.2) degrees became a new warmest January of at least 39 at Reading 4 SW, bettering the 39.6 of January 2006 by a substantial margin, and ending far above the January 2022 average of 28.5. Officially for Reading (RDG), the final average of 40.7 became fourth warmest behind 40.8 (1933), 41.2 (1950) and 43.0 (1932). The former fourth-place holder was January 1913 at 39.2. Yet, there was no unusual warmth. The month high of 62 on 4th is a typical January highest. The daily lows contributed more to the anomaly, 33.7 (+9.8) versus 47.9 (+8.5) for the highs. Only 13 days had freezing lows, none of which had a freezing high. The coolest high of 34, on 14th, was second to only 1990 (36), the only other January without a freezing high, and the only daily high below 40. The previous least days in January with freezing lows was 17 in 1998. Historically, Reading had only five in 1932. Most remarkable was the month lowest of 25 on three different days, which was well above the previous January lowest of 19 during 1990, 2006, and 2021. The lowest of 23 at RDG tied January 1937 for warmest low extreme. Three daily lows 47/3rd, 45/4th, 46/5th tied or edged date record warm lows of 39 years. No other date warm records were challenged.

Despite unusual mildness, this January was quite gloomy with a great majority of days being mostly or completely cloudy. While the cloudiness checked many high temperatures slightly, the blanketing effect kept temperatures from dropping much at night. The minority of mostly clear nights correlated strongly with the few lows below 30. Even so, it was air mostly of Pacific origin and no arctic air at all that contributed most to the persistent mildness without unusual warmth. Several weak to moderate inclement weather systems resulted in normal precipitation (3.90/+0.08), which was favorably distributed during the month. Snow was almost no-show until the 25th when a thump of wet snow deposited 2.9” in less than three hours during midday, but ahead of warming and rain which melted it all within 16 hours, even faster on nearby higher terrain where warming and wind were more robust. This system, which brought the only measurable snow, delivered the greatest 24-hour precipitation of 1.04. January precipitation in Berks County of generally 3.4 to 4.4 inches, included 3.45 at RDG. County snow of mostly 1 to 4 inches, least far south, came entirely or nearly so on the 25th. January 2022 at Reading 4 SW brought 3.21” including the melt of 9.0” of snow.

RANKINGS AND EXTREMES FOR THIS MONTH (JANUARY)

Avg Temp 40.8 – 1st Warmest of 39 (21.1 in 1994 to 39.6$ in 2006) $ previous

Precip 3.90 – 14th Wettest of 41 (1.58 in 2008 to 8.00 in 1996) warmest

Snowfall 2.9 – 10th Least of 41 (0.3 in 2006 to 46.5 in 1996)