**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

**February 2023**

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

TEMPERATURES

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

1 37 25 25 0.01 0.1 0 Light snow predawn

2 41 21 33

3 36 14 **14** T T 0 Snow flurries predawn, early afternoon

4 **28** **12** 21

**5** 50 20 36

6 48 28 29

7 46 21 40 T Sprinkle around 2100

8 56 31 31

9 **62** 29 **61** T Sprinkles dawn and dusk

10 61 **42** 42

11 48 31 31

**12** 46 29 39 0.04 Light rain after dusk

13 59 31 47

14 57 37 40

15 68 40 54

16 61 **42** 54 0.23 Rain early afternoon

17 60 34 34 0.22 Predawn fog; showers dawn to midday

18 44 25 31

**19** 57 30 44

20 65 36 49

(3/16”)

21 58 37 37 0.25 Sm.Hail Rain before dawn; large drops, hail mid-aft

22 41 29 39 0.17 T 0 Rain mixed with sleet midday hours

23 **70** 38 58

24 58 30 30

25 35 26 29 T T 0 Very light snow during midday

**26** 57 26 44

27 50 31 34 **0.44 0.2 T** Mostly rain, some sleet, little snow PM

28 42 31 31 0.08 0 Light rain AM; little drizzle early PM

29 -- -- --

30 -- -- --

31 -- -- --

SUM 1441 826 1.44 0.3 0

MONTHLY STATISTICS

Average Monthly Temperature (Dep): 40.5 (+6.6)

Average Maximum Temperature (Dep): 51.5 (+9.0)

Average Minimum Temperature (Dep): 29.5 (+4.2)

Extreme Daily High Max Temp (Dep): 70 (+8) on 23rd (record 83 on 21 Feb 2018)

Extreme Daily High Minimum Temp: 42 on 10th 16th (record 53 on 24 Feb 2017)

Extreme Daily Low Min Temp (Dep): 12 (+2) on 4th (record -3 on 6 Feb 1996)+

Extreme Daily Low Maximum Temp: 28 on 4th (record 14 on 15 Feb 2015)

Heating Degree Days (Season): 679 (3221)

Cooling Degree Days (Season): 0 (0)

+ Most recent of more than one occurrence

-- more --

Total Monthly Precipitation (Dep): 1.44 (-1.77)

Total Annual Pcpn through Month: 5.34 (-1.69)

Greatest Calendar Day Pcpn: 0.44 on 27th (record 2.81 13 Feb 2008)

Greatest Floating 24-Hour Pcpn: 0.52 on 27th-28th (rec 3.25 12-13 Feb 2008)

Total Monthly Snowfall (Dep): 0.3 (-8.5)

Total Season Snowfall (Dep): 3.7 (-19.3)

Greatest Calendar Day Snowfall: 0.2 on 27th (record 26.0 on 11 Feb 1983)

Greatest Floating 24-Hour Snowfl: 0.2 on 27th-27th (rec 26.0 on 11-11 Feb 1983)

Maximum Depth of Snow/Ice: T on 1st 27th

Days with Hail: 1

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

Highest Wind Gust (MPH): 36 on 3rd

Maximum Barometric Pressure: 30.67 on 4th

Minimum Barometric Pressure: 29.52 on 21st

HIGHLIGHTS

February 2023 continued the warmer-than-normal trend of January after a moderate cold snap the first four days during which the lowest of 12 occurred along with the only day that stayed at or below 32, both on the 4th. Afterward, there was not another low below 20 and only one more high below 40. The warmth featured six highs in the 60s and then a highest of 70 on the 23rd. However, numerous clear nights with little wind contributed to the 20 freezing lows, some occurring between mild middays. Even so, the final average temperature of 40.5 (+6.6) nearly matched January’s 40.8 degrees and was second warmest February only to 41.7 of 2017, and it pushed February 1998 (40.3) to third place. As fair weather dominated, the average of the daily highs was more than twice as anomalous (+9.0) as that of the daily lows (+4.2). Last February (2022) was similar temperature-wise, not quite so mild at 36.3, but included lowest and highest of 11 and 69 respectively. Officially for Reading PA (RDG), the average of 40.2 tied February 1954 for second warmest, only to 40.5 in 2017. Only two very weak record highs were tied or bettered slightly.

Precipitation this February was abnormally sparse with total of only 1.44” and included only eight days with at least 0.01”, the greatest only 0.44 on the 27th. This meager total was fourth least of 41, just above 1.43 of February 2017 but way above 0.67 from 2002 and 2009. Correspondingly, wintry precipitation was very low, 0.1” snow on the 1st, 0.2 of sleet on the 27th and no glaze ice for total of 0.3, fourth least of 41. However, on the 21st, cold air aloft coupled with daytime warming destabilized the atmosphere and allowed convective showers to develop mid-afternoon. Reading 4 SW was slightly out of earshot of thunder to the north. But the southern tip of this cell brought a very brief splattering of very large drops and small (3/16”) hail which only polka-dotted pavements. February 2022 brought 3.75” which included the melt of 5.2” of snow. Precipitation was very deficient throughout Berks County with almost all locales receiving within the narrow range of 1.0 to 1.6 inches, including 1.17 at RDG which tied February 1980 for eighth least during last 154 years. Further, daytime warming on many days contributed to a rather windy February during which most days had gusts of at least 20 mph, greatest 36 on 3rd, more like a typical March. While modest for most locations, this much wind is considered impressive for this low-lying, somewhat wind-sheltered residential neighborhood.

RANKINGS AND EXTREMES FOR THIS MONTH (FEBRUARY)

Avg Temp 40.5 – 2nd warmest of 39 (22.4 in 2015 to 41.7 in 2017)

Precip 1.44 – 4th driest of 41 (0.67 in 2009+ to 7.22 in 2008)

Snowfall 0.3 – 4th least of 41 (T in 2020+ to 43.5 in 2010)

Statistical (meteorological) winter (months DJF) 2022-23 ended much warmer than average at 38.9 (+5.0), which edged above the previous warmest of 38.8 from 2001-02. Cold weather was scarce outside of a severe cold wave from 23-25 Dec which contained lows of 6 and 5 above on 23rd and 24th and three of only four ice days (high LE 32). Only six days had lows below 20. The warmth was keyed by a high of 70 on 23 Feb and ten other days with highs at least 60. Precipitation was slightly deficient at 10.63” (-0.65), especially 1.44” (-1.77) of Feb. Snowfall of 3.7” (-18.5), 2.9” of which fell on 25 Jan, was second to 3.6” from 2019-20.