**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 2024**

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

 TEMPERATURES

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

 1 44 37 38 0.04 Occasional light rain, mostly before dawn

 2 43 28 28

 3 44 24 32

 4 44 29 29 T T Few slush drops early afternoon

5 39 21 23

 6 35 22 35 1.00 2.1 2 Snow 11-15 hrs, mix 15-18 hrs, only rain eve

 **7** 42 34 39 0.12 T 1 Drizzle then rain/wet snow showers AM

 8 45 26 26 T

 9 **59** 26 **58** **1.96** 0 Rain, heavy at times, after 1000

10 58 **42** 42 0.21 (T-)showers before 0300; few drops during day

11 50 38 38

12 49 28 46 0.48 Rain after 1900 till after midnight…

13 55 38 33 0.36 …sprinkles predawn to forenoon

**14** 40 22 22 T T Flurries late morning

15 28 22 25 0.08 0.8 1 Light snow mainly after dusk

16 29 17 **17** 0.28 2.2 3 Light snow till early afternoon

17 **26** **9** 19 3

18 34 15 30 2

19 31 23 23 0.27 **3.5** **6** Snow predawn till dusk, mostly before 1000

20 25 12 23 5

**21** 34 19 19 4

22 36 12 26 3

23 45 26 37 T 2 Sprinkles late evening

24 39 36 38 0.12 T Occasional rain, mostly PM, periods of fog

25 50 38 48 0.40 0 Frequent drizzle, occasional rain; fog at times

26 51 41 41 0.18 Light rain AM; fog, very dense evening

27 52 36 44 0.03 Fog long before dawn; light rain late evening

**28** 44 39 39 0.89 Rain AM, drizzle PM

29 42 37 37 0.01 Little rain long before dawn

30 38 34 36

31 42 30 30 T Little drizzle after daybreak

SUM 1303 856 6.43 8.6 11

MONTHLY STATISTICS

Average Monthly Temperature (Dep): 34.8 (+3.2)

Average Maximum Temperature (Dep): 42.0 (+2.6)

Average Minimum Temperature (Dep): 27.6 (+3.7)

Extreme Daily High Max Temp (Dep): 59 (-2) on 9th (record 71 on 06 Jan 2007)

Extreme Daily High Minimum Temp: 42 on 10th (record 61 on 15 Jan 1995)

Extreme Daily Low Min Temp (Dep): 9 (+1) on 17th (record -14 on 21 Jan 1994)

Extreme Daily Low Maximum Temp: 26 on 17th (record 2 on 19 Jan 1994)

Heating Degree Days (Season): 933 (2600)

Cooling Degree Days (Season): 0 (0)

+ Most recent of more than one occurrence

 -- more --

Total Monthly Precipitation (Dep): 6.43 (+2.61)

Total Annual Pcpn through Month: 6.43 (+2.61)

Greatest Calendar Day Pcpn: 1.96 on 9th (record 3.02 on 23 Jan 2016) Greatest Floating 24-Hour Pcpn: 2.17 on 9th-10th (rec 3.20 on 22-23 Jan 2016)

Total Monthly Snowfall (Dep): 8.6 (-0.6)

Total Season Snowfall (Dep): 9.3 (-4.8)

Greatest Calendar Day Snowfall: 3.5 on 19th (record 24.6 on 23 Jan 2016)

Greatest Floating 24-Hour Snowfl: 3.5 on 19th-19th (rec 28.0 on 07-08 Jan 1996)

Maximum Depth of Snow/Ice: 6 on 19th

Days with Hail: 0

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

Highest Wind Gust (MPH): 34 on 14th

Maximum Barometric Pressure: 30.60 on 22nd

Minimum Barometric Pressure: 29.02 on 10th

HIGHLIGHTS

January 2024 was moderately cold to mild except for harsh cold at mid-month till a few days thereafter. This cold spell, considering magnitude and duration, was harshest cold period in five years when few days of severe cold was keyed by a frigid -7 on 31 January 2019, the result of clear and calm night over fresh powder. This January’s cold was keyed by a lowest of 9 above on the 17th among five days of which failed to rise above 32 including coldest high of 25 on 20th. The month’s coldest of 9 was 1 degree above the average January lowest. The month’s warmest of 59 on 9th was 2 below the average January highest. Therefore both unusual cold and warm were absent. The cold spell nearly offset the mildness that preceded it. But then mildness which followed to the end of month included nearly 200 hours continuously above freezing and raised the average convincingly above the 1991-2020 30-year average to a final 34.8 (+3.2), but not nearly to that of last January (2023), which was 40.8 for a new warmest January at Reading 4 SW in at least 40 years. Officially for Reading PA (RDG), the final average of 34.6 included extremes of 10/60 and seven days with highs not above 32.

January 2024 also was quite wet with total rain and melted snow amounting to 6.43” (+2.61), good for fourth most during last 42 years. However, Reading area stations with longer periods of record indicate month totals of 8 to 10 inches during January 1978, including 8.38” at RDG for new wettest January since 1870. But that was surpassed one year later (Jan 1979) with month totals of 9 to 13 inches, including 10.27” at RDG. This January’s wetness was keyed by an intense inland-tracking low (cyclone) which brought 2.17” of only rain from forenoon of the 9th till wee hours of the 10th and ended with a thundershower which coincided with low barometer adjusted to sea level of 29.02 in\*Hg. Two other storms, 1.12” on 6th - 7th and 0.92 on 27th – 28th contributed significantly also. Heavy rains caused no worse than minor flooding in the Reading area. Total snow accumulation of 8.6” was slightly under the mean of 9.2 but slightly over the median. Snow or mix came from three separate weak to moderate systems of similar magnitude including two during the cold spell, 3.0” on 15th – 16th and 3.5 on 19th. The other occurred earlier, 2.1 on 6th. Ground was covered by about an inch to as much as 6” during eleven days. Total snowfall in Berks County ranged 7 to 12 inches. Total precipitation in Berks County ranged mainly within about 6 to 7.5” and included 5.97 at RDG. January 2023 at Reading 4 SW brought normal precipitation of 3.90” (+0.08) and included the melt of 2.9” of slush which all melted within 16 hours.

RANKINGS AND EXTREMES FOR THIS MONTH (JANUARY)

Avg Temp 34.8 – 10th Warmest of 40 (21.1 in 1994 to 40.8 in 2023)

Precip 6.43 – 4th Wettest of 42 (1.58 in 2008 to 8.00 in 1996)

Snowfall 8.6 – 17th Most of 42 (0.3 in 2006 to 46.5 in 1996)