**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 2020**

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

 TEMPERATURES

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

 1 40 25 25 T T Feeble flurries late morning

 2 50 22 43

 3 46 42 45 0.24 Periods of light rain

 4 53 41 41 0.13 Light rain, mainly before 0700; dense AM fog

 **5** 41 34 34 T T Flurries at midnight…

 6 50 32 41 T T …ended before dawn

 7 48 30 30 0.27 1.4 **1** Wet snow. Moderate at times, 1500-2100

 8 37 26 26 0.01 0.1 1 Snow showers during day, dustings

 9 32 **18** 27 1

10 55 26 43 0

11 **66** **43** **65** T Few drops early afternoon; windy

**12** **66** 39 39 0.36 Showers before dawn; windy; AM low temp 61

13 45 34 34

14 42 33 42 0.07 Light rain/drizzle afternoon/evening with fog

15 52 38 44 0.01 Light rain 2200 hour

16 51 33 33 T T Few flurries evening; quite windy

17 33 22 **22**

18 35 21 35 0.36 **1.5** 1 Snow 0930 > sleet > frz rain aft, rain eve

**19** 39 25 26 0.05 T Light rain well before dawn

20 32 20 **22** T

21 34 **18** 23 T

22 39 **18** 23 T

23 42 19 31 T

24 54 29 41 0

25 46 35 37 **1.86** Rain, heavy at times, predawn to early aft

**26** 48 32 35

27 44 35 39

28 41 37 37

29 44 29 29

30 38 20 26

31 43 26 31 0.01 Little rain early evening

SUM 1381 902 3.37 3.0 4

MONTHLY STATISTICS

Average Monthly Temperature (Dep): 36.8 (+5.3)

Average Maximum Temperature (Dep): 44.5 (+5.2)

Average Minimum Temperature (Dep): 29.1 (+5.4)

Extreme Daily High Max Temp (Dep): 66 (+5) on 11, 12 (record 71 on 06 Jan 2007)

Extreme Daily High Minimum Temp: 43 on 11th (record 61 on 15 Jan 1995)

Extreme Daily Low Min Temp (Dep): 18 (+12)on 3 days (record -14 on 21 Jan 1994)

Extreme Daily Low Maximum Temp: 32 on 9th, 20th (record 2 on 19 Jan 1994)

Heating Degree Days (Season): 865 (2706)

Cooling Degree Days (Season): 0 (0)

+ Most recent of more than one occurrence

 -- more --

Total Monthly Precipitation (Dep): 3.37 (-0.34)

Total Annual Pcpn through Month: 3.37 (-0.34)

Greatest Calendar Day Pcpn: 1.86 on 25th (record 3.02 on 23 Jan 2016) Greatest Floating 24-Hour Pcpn: 1.86 on 25th-25th(rec 3.20 on 22-23 Jan 2016)

Total Monthly Snowfall (Dep): 3.0 (-6.6)

Total Season Snowfall (Dep): 3.6 (-10.6)

Greatest Calendar Day Snowfall: 1.5 on 18th (record 24.6 on 23 Jan 2016)

Greatest Floating 24-Hour Snowfl: 1.5 on 18th-18th (rec 28.0 on 07-08 Jan 1996)

Maximum Depth of Snow/Ice: 1 (long)

Days with Hail: 0

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

Highest Wind Gust (MPH): 39 on 16th

Maximum Barometric Pressure: 30.80 on 9th

Minimum Barometric Pressure: 29.56 on 4th

HIGHLIGHTS

January 2020 was a “mild-mannered January” in Reading and Berks County according to local press, and this observer agrees. Temperatures oscillated between moderately cold and mild with the mild being more frequent and even including two unseasonably warm days. Specifically, a pair of highs of 66 graced the weekend of 11th and 12th and included an overnight low of 61. The official high for Reading (RDG) on the 12th was also 66 which edged over the record high for the date of 65 from two years ago, 2018. However, the early morning low of 61 was dragged down to 39 by midnight. Unlike January 2018, in which the warmth was shared with numerous days of arctic cold, arctic air was totally absent this January. The lowest of 18 occurred on three different days. One other day chilled below 20. And only two days failed to rise above 32; both reached exactly 32. Conversely, twelve days stayed above 32 for all 24 hours. Additionally, this January at 36.8 (+5.3) averaged slightly above December’s 36.3. And December was 1.1 above normal. As mild as this January was, four were milder during 36 years. The 36.0 average at RDG was 15th warmest of 123 and far short of the top 42.94 average of January 1932. January 2019 was much colder at 30.7 (-0.8) and contained one of the coldest temperatures on record at Reading 4 SW of minus 7.

Precipitation totaled low-end normal (-0.34) at 3.37. Occurrences before the 20th were rather frequent but fell mainly as “nickel and dime” amounts but contained all of the 3.0 of snow. Only two of the final 12 days had measurable precipitation with 1.86 of 1.87 falling as all rain within twelve hours on the 25th. Eastern Berks County collected generally 2.0 to 2.5 which caused some localized minor flooding. Snow and ice caused rather low impact due to melting on impact upon roads on the 7th or occurring on a Saturday, the 18th. This latter storm came as light snow crusted by sleet, freezing rain, and then plain rain. January 2019 was wetter at 4.37 which included the melt of 6.4 of snow.

Precipitation totals in Berks County were mostly in the range of 2.5 and 4.0, including 2.73 officially for Reading (RDG), and monthly snowfall totals ranged mainly 3 to 6 with the greater totals north or higher elevations.

RANKINGS AND EXTREMES FOR THIS MONTH (JANUARY)

Avg Temp 36.8 – 5th Warmest of 36 (21.1 in 1994 to 39.6 in 2006)

Precip 3.37 – 22nd Driest of 38 (1.58 in 2008 to 8.00 in 1996)

Snowfall 3.0 – 10th Least (2-way) of 38 (0.3 in 2006 to 46.5 in 1996)