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

**May 2024**

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

TEMPERATURES

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

1 83 57 66

2 **91** 56 66

3 73 50 50

4 57 50 50 0.28 Periods of light rain, drizzle PM

**5** **56** 50 56 0.56 Periods of rain, drizzle, dense fog early AM

6 72 55 61 0.01 Dense fog, drizzle early AM; grad clrg PM

7 83 58 69 T Dense fog (200’) early AM

8 88 66 69 0.16 T-showers in area at dawn

9 70 57 57 0.31 Mostly light rain, mainly late aft, evening

10 57 48 **48**  0.47 Frequent mostly light rain, drizzle

11 67 **43** 51 0.01 Little rain dusk, post-dusk

**12** 59 47 50 0.19 Mostly light rain, drizzle till midday

13 76 50 55

14 71 50 62 0.32 Periods of rain midday on, mostly early eve

15 70 58 58 0.17 Occasional light rain AM

16 72 54 61 0.03 Traces of drizzle mid-aft, lgt rain post-dusk

17 72 60 62

18 67 59 63 0.12 Light rain after 0645, very light PM

**19** 80 62 63 0.01 Drizzle; brief shower 1000 hour

20 84 58 65

21 89 60 69

22 **91** 61 **74** 0.02 Nearby TSTM 1530-1600, one clap then shower

23 83 **68** 68 0.03 At edge of TSTM to N at dawn

24 88 62 64

25 **91** 58 67 0.12 TSTMs nearby either side of dusk

**26** 89 65 72 Early AM dense fog

27 80 67 68 0.19 TSTMs nearby midday > sunset, glances of rain

28 82 63 63

29 79 56 61 0.02 At edge of TSTM to S late afternoon

30 75 53 53

31 78 50 54

SUM 2373 1751 3.02 0.0 0

MONTHLY STATISTICS

Average Monthly Temperature (Dep): 66.5 (+3.7)

Average Maximum Temperature (Dep): 76.5 (+2.6)

Average Minimum Temperature (Dep): 56.5 (+4.8)

Extreme Daily High Max Temp (Dep): 91 (-0) on 2,22,25(record 98 on 30 May 1987)

Extreme Daily High Minimum Temp: 68 on 23rd (record 72 on 30 May 2011)+

Extreme Daily Low Min Temp (Dep): 43 (+6) on 11th (record 31 on 14 May 1996)

Extreme Daily Low Maximum Temp: 56 on 5th (record 48 on 09 May 2020)

Heating Degree Days (Season): 75 (4280)

Cooling Degree Days (Season): 129 (154)

+ Most recent of more than one occurrence

-- more --

Total Monthly Precipitation (Dep): 3.02 (-1.13)

Total Annual Pcpn through Month: 22.99 (+3.22)

Greatest Calendar Day Pcpn: 0.56 on 5th (record 3.12 19 May 1988)

Greatest Floating 24-Hour Pcpn: 0.80 on 4th-5th (rec 4.10 04-05 May 1989)

Total Monthly Snowfall (Dep): 0.0 (-0.0)

Total Season Snowfall (Dep): 17.8 (-10.5)

Greatest Calendar Day Snowfall: 0.0 on (record 0.0 on 09 May 2020)\*

Greatest Floating 24-Hour Snowfl: 0.0 on (rec 0.0 on 09-09 May 2020)\*

Maximum Depth of Snow/Ice: 0 on \* few flurries above 400’ ASL

Days with Hail: 0

Days with Thunder (Dep): 6 (+1)

Highest Wind Gust (MPH): 22 on 28th

Maximum Barometric Pressure: 30.26 on 4th

Minimum Barometric Pressure: 29.53 on 8th

HIGHLIGHTS

May 2024 was rather rainy qualitatively but not so much quantitatively. The 18 days with measurable rain was five above average and only one short of the most of 19 during May 2017. However, the daily amounts were mostly meager and summed to only 3.02” (-1.13) which placed eighth least of 42. The driest May by far occurred just last year (2023) with 0.25” and stands as second least of all 497 calendar months during nearly 42 years. The greatest day this May, a modest 0.56”, occurred on the 5th. Further, six days with audible thunder was one above average, but nearly all thunder was faint and distant. Several occurrences of heavier downpours within Berks County skirted around Reading 4 SW, usually to the north. County May totals ranged from slightly under 3.00” to 5.4” with greatest concentration 3.75 to 4.5 inches. Therefore, Reading 4 SW placed near the bottom of the barrel. Reading PA (RDG) officially tallied 3.27 inches.

May 2024 was more frequently warm than cool and averaged 66.5 degrees (+3.7) which was good for sixth warmest (tied with 1986) of 40. Despite low rainfall, cloudy days and nights were numerous. Majority cloudiness likely was cause by reducing nocturnal cooling so that the average of the daily lows (56.5/+4.8) contributed considerably more to the anomaly than the average of the daily highs (76.5/+2.6). The lowest of 43 on the 11th was only one of three lows below 50, which is quite few for May. Only May 2012 had a lowest above 43 with 44. May 2015 also had a lowest of 43. Further, three days rather early in the month were held below 60, and that is typical for May. However, numerous partly sunny to sunny days produced 14 days which warmed to at least 80, including three highs of 91 on 2nd, 22nd, and 25th. One or two low 90s late in May is typical. Even more, the lack of incursions of chilly air from northern Canada allowed warmth to dominate this May. An abrupt change in temperature came early. That first high of 91 on 2nd was followed soon by a high of 57 on the 4th as a drizzly NE wind developed behind backdoor cold front. Such fronts, which rudely terminate fair, warm weather, are rather common in spring. May 2023 at Reading 4 SW was substantially cooler with final average of 61.6 degrees, which included extremes of 35/89. This May, RDG officially averaged 66.1 degrees with extremes of 43/90.

RANKINGS AND EXTREMES FOR THIS MONTH (MAY)

Avg Temp 66.5 – 6th (2-way) warmest of 40 (57.7 in 2005 to 68.4 in 2015)

Precip 3.02 – 8th driest of 42 (0.25 in 2023 to 12.66 in 1989)

Snowfall 0.0 – Least of 42 Last widespread May flurries, 9 May 1977

Statistical spring (months MAM) averaged 56.3 (+3.6) in temperature, in which all three months were moderately warmer than average, and included extremes of 24 on 1 and 22 March and 91 on 29 April plus three days in May. Also, this MAM cluster averaged third warmest of 40 behind 57.0 in 2010 and 57.9 in 2012. Precipitation totaled 14.67” (+1.95), which came mostly during March (6.73) and early April. The only snow came as feeble wet snow with mainly rain on 10 March. The rainiest day was Wednesday 3 April with 1.84 inches.