The Pennsylvania Observer

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February 2014 - Pennsylvania Weather Recap

By: Lacey Morrow

January had more snowfall than average, but February's departure from normal was even greater. Pennsylvania was sitting under high pressure as January ended. The high only stuck around a day or so before a cold front with a disturbance passed through on February 2. This led to most of southern and eastern PA receiving more than 4+ inches of snow. Harrisburg reported 6.5 inches of snow on February 3. Even more snow fell two days later as a low passed over the northern portion of the Commonwealth. Erie reported 8.1 inches of snow on February 5.

The next major snow event did not hit the state until February 12. A coastal storm covered many states with snow. It hit hardest in Virginia and Maryland, but also had a big impact on Pennsylvania. Philadelphia reported 10.4 inches of snow February 13, and Allentown reported 17.8 inches the same day. In its wake, it also brought the lowest minimum temperatures of the month. Warren reported a low of -8 degrees, while Bradford reported -22 degrees.

There was a period of unseasonably warm air from February 18-23. Temperatures across the state ranged from 40-60 degrees. On February 21, Philadelphia was 27 degrees above normal. The warm front was followed immediately by a weak cold front. The combination of these two fronts brought about half an inch of rain for western and northern portions of Pennsylvania. Bradford area measured 0.86 inches of rain. Another cold front passed through February 24 which brought temperatures back down to normal. February 26, yet another cold front moved through, dropping temperatures well below average.

Compared to January, February still had below average temperatures and more snow. January's average temperature was about 6 degrees below normal. February was closer 2 to 4 degrees below normal, despite having a few days deviating largely from normal. This year has already seen more snow than normal. January received about 10" above average, and February had 5-20" above average.

Here are the weather extremes across Pennsylvania (**observations taken at 8AM EDT**) during February 2014 from the NWS Cooperative & ASOS Networks of which our office receives routine observations. The extremes occurred in the 24-hour period prior to the date listed.

Parameter	Location	Value	Date (8 AM EDT)	County
Highest Temperature	Fountain Dale Site R Helipad	73°F	February 23 rd	Adams
Lowest Temperature	Clarence	-25°F	February 13 th	Centre
Greatest Cumulative	Glenmoore	6.82"	February 1 st –	Chester
Liquid Precipitation			February 28 th	
Least Cumulative Liquid	Bradford	1.60"	February 1 st –	McKean
Precipitation	Regional AP		February 28 th	
Greatest Cumulative	Laurel	59.5"	February 1 st –	Somerset
Snowfall	Summit		February 28 th	

Links to Pennsylvania Weather Stories during February, 2014

Rough winter weather may have soured some moods, but has not hurt PA's economy http://www.pennlive.com/midstate/index.ssf/2014/02/snow_winter_economy_pennsylvan.html

Large icicles in urban areas become wintry missiles

http://www.pennlive.com/midstate/index.ssf/2014/02/look_out_below_ice_falling_fro.html

Icestorm knocks out power to nearly one million in southeast PA

http://www.pennlive.com/midstate/index.ssf/2014/02/corbett_signs_disaster_emergen.html

Study shows that alternate energy will flourish in PA

http://triblive.com/news/adminpage/5133484-74/energy-solar-benefits#axzz2uFspfshr