

March 2007 – Pennsylvania Weather Recap

March 2007 certainly came in like a lion across portions of the United States. A complex winter system was moving across the nation on March 1 bringing severe weather with deadly tornadoes to the Southeast and heavy rains and snow to the Northeast. Many locations in Pennsylvania received anywhere from 0.75" to as much as 2.5" of rain from this system as it passed through the region on March 1st through the 2nd.

After the heavy rainstorm, skies cleared out with temperatures taking a nose dive into the first week of the month. Low temperatures around the 5th into the 6th averaged near 10 degrees while the high temperatures struggled to reach freezing.

A fast moving Alberta Clipper affected the Commonwealth on the 7th bringing anywhere from one to ten inches of snow to the region, with the heaviest amounts in the Laurel mountains. After the Clipper cleared the region, cloudy skies dominated into the next week with temperatures rebounding to above normal levels.

Temperatures spiked on the 13th, with high temperatures reaching 70 degrees in many locations, which is 2 standard deviations above normal for this time of year. The above normal temperatures were short lived however, as a sharp cold front plowed through the region late on the 14th, bringing another shot of heavy rain and even a few thunderstorms to the state. The rain changed to snow on the 15th as much colder rushed into the region.

The most significant event of the month came on the 16th as a powerful Nor'easter moved up the east coast. This storm brought a mixed bag of precipitation to the state beginning early in the morning on the 16th. Most locations across the Commonwealth received anywhere from six to 18 inches of fresh snow, while areas near Philadelphia received several inches of heavy sleet.

The Nor'easter moved out of the region on the 17th, but temperatures remained below normal through the 21st of the month. Temperatures rose back to above normal levels on the 22nd, and remained above normal until another cold front pushed through the region late on the 22nd.

The front that passed through the region on the 22nd stalled to Pennsylvania's south during the 24th through the 25th, beginning several periods of rain for the region during the last week of the month. In between the showers, temperatures rose to above normal levels once again, especially on the 27th, in which the high temperature rose to above 80 in some locations. Williamsport, PA set a new record high for the 27th of 84 degrees. The day was capped off with showers and thunderstorms across the western half of the state, with a few severe storms producing large hail. The month ended like a lamb with above normal temperatures under clear skies thanks to a large high pressure system building south from Canada.

Here are the weather extremes across Pennsylvania (**observations taken at 8AM EDT**) during January 2007 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 | Lewisburg | 85 °F | March 28 th | Union |
| Lowest Temperature | York | -9 °F | March 8 th | York |
| Greatest Cumulative Liquid Precipitation | Boswell | 6.53" | March 1 st -March 31st | Somerset |
| Least Cumulative Liquid Precipitation | Johnstown | 0.86" | March 1 st -March 31st | Cambria |
| Most Snow | Hawley | 14" | March 17th | Wayne |