

The Pennsylvania Observer

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February 2015 - Pennsylvania Weather Recap

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Much like January, February featured below average temperatures across Pennsylvania. The coldest temperatures of the winter were seen during this month as many locations experienced temperatures below zero. As for precipitation, most of the state was drier than average.

February had an exciting start as a winter storm tracked right over the middle of the state. A variety of precipitation types were seen during this storm. Northern Pennsylvania received mostly snow while farther south more precipitation fell in the form of rain.

High pressure dominated the weather pattern for the next week. Another significant storm moved through Pennsylvania on the 9th preceded by the mildest weather of the month. The most significant snow occurred north of the state, but some snow fell across northern counties and southern portions of the state experienced some rain.

High pressure once again dominated after the 9th. The first shot of Arctic air for the month arrived on the 12th. Lows dipped into the single digits statewide the following morning. Some locations in the northwest saw lows below zero. On the 14th, strong snow squalls moved through followed by another blast of bitterly cold air. Widespread lows below zero were seen the morning of the 15th and highs remained in the single digits.

Cold was the story for the following week with single digits and subzero lows occurring each night. The next significant disturbance moved through on the weekend of the 21st. Precipitation fell as all snow with stripes of six inch accumulations in some areas.

The weather cleared once again during the final week of February, with the frigid temperatures continuing. The month ended with more bitter cold as a center of high pressure settled right over the state the morning of the 28th. Many lows were below zero on the last morning of what turned out to be the coldest February of record in parts of the state.

Here are the weather extremes across Pennsylvania (**observations taken at 8AM EDT**) during February 2015 from the NWS Cooperative, ASOS, and CoCoRaHS 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	Connellsville 2 Mi. SSW	60°F	February 9 th	Fayette
Lowest Temperature	Oswayo 1 Mi. ENE	-32°F	February 16 th	Potter
Greatest Cumulative Liquid Precipitation	Donegal 2 Mi. NW	4.00"	February 1 st – 28 th	Westmoreland
Least Cumulative Liquid Precipitation	Selinsgrove Penn Valley AP	0.57"	February 1 st – 28 th	Snyder
Greatest Cumulative Snowfall	Chandlers Valley 1 Mi. SE	40.0"	February 1 st – 28 th	Warren

Links to Pennsylvania Weather Stories during February, 2015

Ultimate winter weather irony; salt truck crashes on icy road

<http://www.wtae.com/news/salt-truck-crashes-on-icy-pittsburgh-street/31066834?absolute=true>

Weinermobile hits an icy patch and crashes near Harrisburg

<http://www.commdiginews.com/business-2/not-so-hot-dog-weinermobile-bun-smashed-on-snowy-pa-road-36471/>

Winter blues and cabin fever spread in PA

http://www.pennlive.com/midstate/index.ssf/2015/02/seasonal_effective_disorder_go.html

Bitter cold takes its toll on utilities and school buses

<http://www.wgal.com/news/cold-weather-impacts-utility-companies-school-buses/31382010?absolute=true>

