

## **April 2007 – Pennsylvania Weather Recap**

If April showers are supposed to bring May flowers, then what are April snow showers supposed to bring? April 2007 started off on the stormy side as thunderstorms were reported across parts of the Commonwealth on the 1st in response to a slow moving disturbance from the west. After the storms cleared, high pressure settled in for the period through the 4th, bringing fair weather and mild temperatures. State College reached a high of 77 degrees on the 3rd, which is two standard deviations above normal for this time of year. The mild temperatures, however, were short lived though as a strong cold front plowed through the region in the early morning hours on the 5th, ushering in a cold snap that would last through the middle of the month. Snow showers were reported in numerous locations across the state on the 5th, as temperatures struggled to reach freezing.

The lake-effect snow showers persisted through the Easter weekend as frigid Canadian air flowed over the warmer lake waters of Lake Erie. Some locations near the lake received several inches of fresh snow. Even State College got in on the lake-effect snow, picking up anywhere from three to as much as five inches of snow in a narrow, localized area during the early morning hours of the 8th. Temperatures through Easter remained at least two standard deviations below normal. To put this cold snap into perspective, the high temperature recorded in State College on Christmas Day 2006 was 45 degrees while the high temperature recorded in the same location on Easter was only 36 degrees.

Temperatures slowly started to moderate slightly as mid-month drew closer, but signs were clearly evident that winter was not over yet. A fast moving system moved through the region on the 12th, bringing rain to most of Pennsylvania, while some high elevations across the state picked up a light coating of snow. Temperatures once again plunged to two standard deviations below normal behind this system, continuing the cold snap across Pennsylvania and parts of the Northeast.

High pressure settled back into the region for the 14th, but a more powerful system began to take aim on the region on the 15th. A strong low pressure system moved up from the south late in the day on the 15th, bringing rain to most of the Commonwealth. A new low pressure formed just off the Delmarva coast early on the 16th and intensified rapidly. By early morning on the 16th, the low was located just southeast of New York City at a central minimum pressure of 966mb (28.53 inches of mercury). The low brought heavy snow to the mountains of eastern Pennsylvania with rain in the valleys along with strong gusty winds. Bear Creak Village in eastern Pennsylvania reported 20 inches of heavy wet snow from this system. The low pressure system was slow to leave the area, and its effects were felt throughout Pennsylvania for the remainder of the week. Off and on rain and higher elevation snow showers were reported through mid-week, while cloudy skies remained through the 20th. Even though the low pressure system brought a late season snowstorm to parts of Pennsylvania, it broke the cold snap that was dominating the state until then, and temperatures began to moderate to normal levels by the 20th.

High pressure was in control from the 20th through the 23rd, with temperatures rising to above normal levels on the 21st. State College recorded a high temperature of 80 degrees on the

23rd of the month, and 81 degrees on the 24th, which is one and a half standard deviations above normal for this time of year.

A disturbance moved through the region on the 25th, bringing a steady rain to most of Pennsylvania. A cold front moved through the region on the 26th into the 27th bringing showers and even a few thunderstorms to the region. Spotty showers and overcast skies dominated Pennsylvania's weather into the last weekend of the month, but skies cleared out for the 29th into the 30th bringing a tranquil end to a wild month.

April 2007 was indeed a historical weather month. Between April 5th and 17th (13 consecutive days), at least a trace of solid precipitation was reported in State College which ties the record for the most consecutive days in the month of April of reported solid precipitation. April averaged below normal temperatures across the region and well above normal rainfall in eastern Pennsylvania and somewhat below average rainfall in the western counties.

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.

<b>Parameter</b>	<b>Location</b>	<b>Value</b>	<b>Date (8 AM EDT)</b>	<b>County</b>
Highest Temperature	York	<b>86 °F</b>	April 24 <sup>th</sup>	York
Lowest Temperature	Marienville	<b>3 °F</b>	April 3 <sup>th</sup>	Forest
Greatest Cumulative Liquid Precipitation	Clermont	<b>8.51"</b>	April 1 <sup>st</sup> - April 30 <sup>th</sup>	McKean
Least Cumulative Liquid Precipitation	Marienville	<b>0.2"</b>	April 1 <sup>st</sup> - April 30 <sup>th</sup>	Forest
Most Snow	Mahony City	<b>8"</b>	April 16 <sup>th</sup>	Schuylkill