

METEOROLOGY

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Palmer Station is Station 89061 in the World Meteorological Organization (WMO) Worldwide Network. Automated surface synoptic observations are made 8 times each day and emailed to the National Atmospheric and Oceanographic Administration (NOAA) for entry into the Global Telecommunication System (GTS).

The Palmer Automatic Weather Station (PAWS) is a collection of sensors, computers, and software that records the meteorological data and generates synoptic reports. PAWS began recording data in September of 2015. It was a replacement for the Palmer Meteorological Observing System (PalMOS) that was taken down in November 2017. The PAWS sensors and data acquisition hardware are located on a ridge in the backyard at -64.774130° -64.047440° at an elevation of 38.3 meters above sea level using the World Geodetic System-84. In addition to the synoptic and METAR reporting, PAWS also archives the current conditions at one-minute intervals and displays both raw data and graphs of the sensor data on our local intranet.

The Research Associate acts as Chief Weather Observer on station, measuring, compiling and distributing all meteorological data. Snow accumulation is physically observed by taking an average of five accumulation stakes found near the PAWS system. All weather data is archived locally and forwarded to the University of Wisconsin on the first day of each month for archiving and further distribution. The system operated normally this month.

One minute weather data is archived on the AMRC website:

<http://amrc.ssec.wisc.edu/data/ftp/pub/palmer/>.

Palmer Monthly Met summary for February, 2024

Temperature
Average: 1.8°C / 35.2°F
Maximum: 7.8°C / 46.04°F on 27 Feb 19:04
Minimum: -1.1°C / 30.02°F on 4 Feb 06:44
Air Pressure
Average: 982.8 mb
Maximum: 1000.9 mb on 26 Feb 05:32
Minimum: 949.6 mb on 5 Feb 14:54
Wind

Average: 10 knots / 11.5 mph
Peak (5 Sec Gust): 48 knots / 55 mph on 13 Feb 06:55 from NE (034 deg)
Prevailing Direction for Month: NNW
Surface
Total Rainfall: 79 mm / 3.11 in
Total Snowfall: 3 cm / 1.2 in
Greatest Depth at Snow Stake: 12.2 cm / 4.8 in
WMO Sea Ice Observation: More than 20 bergs, bergy bits, growlers, brash ice
Average Sea Surface Temperature: 0.71 °C / 33.3 °F

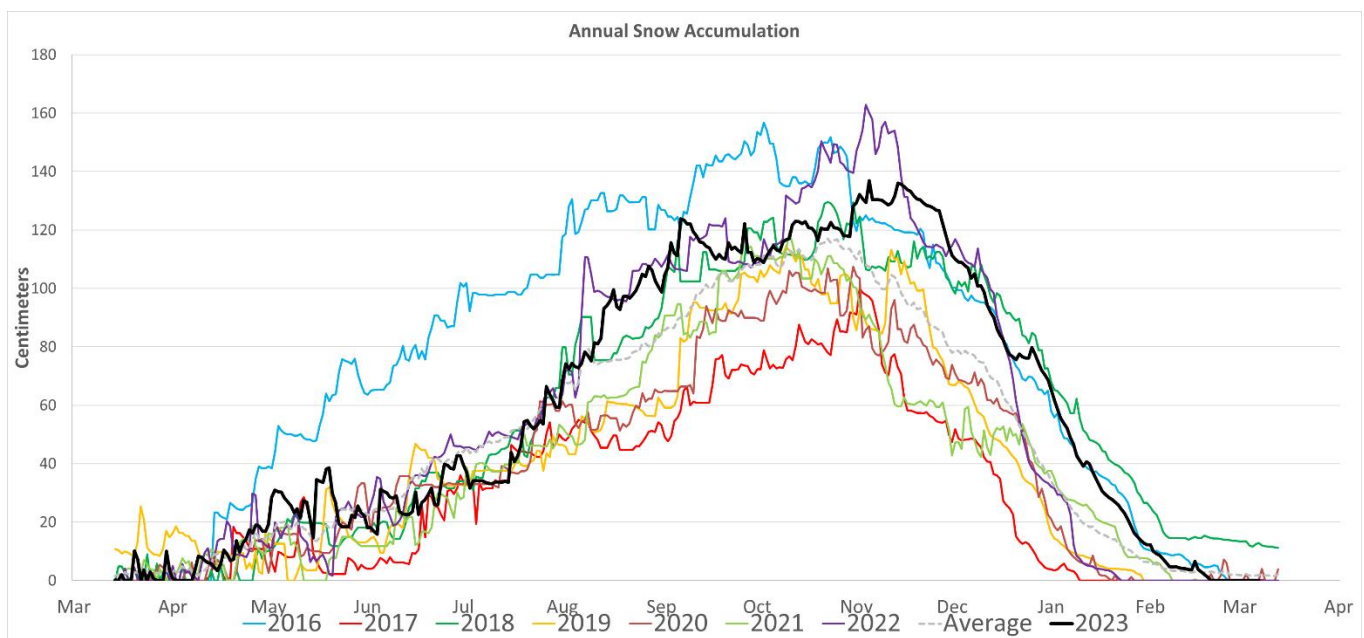


Figure 29: Snow Accumulation and Melt for 2023: The snow stuck around almost a month later this year as compared to the 2022 snow year. *Figure credit Marissa Goerke*