

Watershed Conditions Statement - Water Safety

Pembroke District

Thursday, April 04, 2024
1:00pm

The Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry – **Pembroke District** is advising area residents that a **Watershed Conditions Statement - Water Safety** is in effect in the district until Tuesday, April 09, 2024

Residents in Renfrew County / Pembroke District should consider the following:

Recent precipitation combined with forecasted snowfall and subsequent warm weather will likely result in an increase to water levels on lakes and rivers.

Residents in flood-prone areas are encouraged to closely follow changing conditions and to take necessary measures. Residents are advised to stay away from watercourses where flows are high and where banks might be unstable.

Lower-lying portions of known flood-prone areas may be impacted to various degrees as lake/river levels rise over the next week.

Residents and visitors should exercise caution while around waterbodies and maintain close supervision of children and pets.

MNRF also advises caution when using forest access roads for outdoor activities as they may become seasonally inundated with water, are prone to washouts and may become impassible due to localized flooding.

The ministry is closely monitoring the weather and developing watershed conditions. Further updates will be issued as appropriate.

TECHNICAL INFORMATION

Description of Weather System

This message is based on information received from MNRF's Surface Water Monitoring Centre and Environment Canada.

Rain is expected to transition to snow on Wednesday afternoon or evening. Snow is expected Wednesday evening and overnight. Snow will taper in intensity through the day Thursday. With temperatures being very close to the freezing mark, the snow may be very heavy and wet in nature.

Warm weather starting on Saturday could result in quick warming and melting of the snow which could result in increased flow in streams and rivers. Widespread flooding is not anticipated. However, fast flowing water and flooding in low-lying areas, natural floodplains, and areas with poor drainage is possible.

Description of Current Conditions

The MNRF continues to closely monitor local lakes and rivers as this event progresses.

Lakes and Rivers in the area are still at or below seasonal levels. Lake levels and flows in creeks and rivers will slowly rise as a result of the warm weather and forecasted rains. No flood related issues are predicted at this time.

A close watch on local forecasts and conditions is recommended.

DEFINITIONS

- **WATERSHED CONDITIONS STATEMENT – WATER SAFETY:** indicates that high flows, melting ice or other factors could be dangerous for such users as boaters, anglers and swimmers but flooding is not expected.
- **WATERSHED CONDITIONS STATEMENT – FLOOD OUTLOOK:** gives early notice of the potential for flooding based on weather forecasts calling for heavy rain, snow melt, high winds or other conditions
- **SHORELINE CONDITIONS STATEMENT – WATER SAFETY:** indicates that **along the Great Lakes shorelines high water**, melting ice or other factors could be dangerous but flooding is not expected.
- **SHORELINE CONDITIONS STATEMENT – FLOOD OUTLOOK:** gives early notice of the potential for flooding **along the Great Lakes shorelines** based on weather and lake conditions, and water safety information.
- **FLOOD WATCH:** potential for flooding exists within specific watercourses and municipalities

- **FLOOD WARNING:** flooding is imminent or occurring within specific watercourses and municipalities.

LEARN MORE

- Surface Water Monitoring Centre public webpage www.ontario.ca/page/surface-water-monitoring-centre
- Environment Canada bulletins: www.weather.gc.ca
- A close watch on local conditions and weather forecasts from Environment Canada is recommended.

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