

## Flood Watch Kemptonville District – Ottawa River

### NEWS

04/06/2017

The Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry's (MNR) Kemptonville District Office is advising area residents that a **Flood Watch** is in effect for the north-eastern reaches of the Ottawa River in the District.

Residents living in the City of Clarence-Rockland, the Town of Hawkesbury, and in the Townships East Hawkesbury and Champlain should stay away from fast-moving rivers and streams at this time of year and regularly check updated messages about spring weather conditions. Residents who live in an area that has a historic susceptibility to flooding should take appropriate precautions to protect their property, such as ensuring sump pumps are functioning and securing items that may be impacted should water levels rise.

***Shorelines along streams and rivers are dangerous at this time of year. MNR advises all residents to keep their children, pets and themselves away from lakeshores and riverbanks.***

MNR is closely monitoring spring weather and developing watershed conditions. Further updates will be issued as appropriate.

### TECHNICAL INFORMATION

#### Description of Weather System

This message is being sent on the basis of weather information received from the Ministry's Surface Water Monitoring Centre, Environment Canada and from other sources of weather information.

Today (April 6th), an intense low pressure system will track along the lower Great Lakes. Southern Ontario can expect rain, heavy at times, of up to 50mm with greatest amounts along the northern shore of Lake Ontario towards the Ottawa region.

#### Description of Current Conditions

Water levels in rivers and streams are currently high. The Ottawa River Regulation Planning Board cautions that water levels and flows on the Ottawa River are expected to increase significantly over the next few days. The additional runoff may cause localized flooding for residents in low-lying areas along the Ottawa River.

**Risks:**

Water levels and flows are in the moderate to high range across southern Ontario as they continue to respond to recent rain events. Southeastern Ontario, including the Trent-Severn and into the Ottawa River system, have areas of particular concern.

Severe flooding is not a concern at this time; however, water levels and flows are likely to increase from additional rainfall and snowmelt where it still remains, which may cause ponding and potential for flooding in low lying areas. Furthermore, the potential for blocked storm drains, catch basins and culverts may also cause localized flooding. A close watch on local forecasts and conditions is recommended.

**Expiry Date:**

This message will be in effect until (or updated before): 04/10/2017 12:00 AM.

**Terminology: Notification Levels**

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.

FLOOD WATCH: potential for flooding exists within specific watercourses and municipalities.

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

**CONTACT INFORMATION**

For more information, please contact:

Deborah Bierman, IRM Technical Specialist, Kemptville District Office

Telephone: (613) 258-8203

Email: [deborah.bierman@ontario.ca](mailto:deborah.bierman@ontario.ca)

A close watch on local conditions and weather forecasts from Environment Canada is recommended.

Environment Canada bulletins can be found at [weather.gc.ca/](http://weather.gc.ca/).

The Surface Water Monitoring Centre public webpage can be found at [ontario.ca/flooding](http://ontario.ca/flooding).