

Watershed Conditions Statement - Flood Outlook Kemptville District – Ottawa River

NEWS

05/25/2017

The Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry's (MNRF) Kemptville District Office is advising area residents that the previous **Flood Outlook** statement continues for the residents along 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 of 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. MNRF advises all residents to keep their children, pets and themselves away from lakeshores and riverbanks.

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

TECHNICAL INFORMATION

This message is being sent on the basis of information received from the Ministry's Surface Water Monitoring Centre, the Ottawa River Regulation Planning Board, the Rideau Valley Conservation Authority, Environment Canada and from other sources of weather information.

Description of Current Conditions

Precipitation received over the weekend has slowed water level decline in most locations along the main stem of the Ottawa River.

Risks:

The Ottawa River Regulation Planning Board (ORRPB) advises that with no heavy precipitation forecast over the next few days, water levels from Mattawa down to the Grenville/Hawkesbury area should continue to slowly decline over the coming week.

As long as waters remain on the flood plain, there continues to be a risk of returning to flooding levels in response to possible widespread heavy rainfall events. Residents in low-lying areas are encouraged to continue to closely watch for updates in forecasts.

Expiry Date:

This message will be in effect until (or updated before): 05/29/2017 5:00 PM.

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

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

Environment Canada bulletins can be found at weather.gc.ca/.

The Surface Water Monitoring Centre public webpage can be found at ontario.ca/flooding.