
Watershed Conditions Statement - Water Safety Kemptonville District – Ottawa River

NEWS

04/14/2016

The Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry's (MNRF) – Kemptonville District Office is advising area residents that a **Watershed Conditions Statement - Water Safety** remains 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, Champlain and Alfred-Plantagenet 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

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.

Stable high pressure ridges are holding over southern Ontario to the end of the weekend, leading to clear skies, warm dry air, and temperatures in the seasonal or above seasonal range for all but the far north.

Description of Current Conditions

Water levels and flows across much of south central, eastern and the lower portion of northeastern Ontario are expected to remain elevated through the coming weekend from past precipitation and snow melt. Runoff from any remaining snow pack will increase through the week and weekend as temperatures increase and contribute to or maintain existing high water levels through the Muskokas, and in the Algonquin and Pembroke District watersheds.

Risks:

The risk of flooding and/or high water continues as runoff from previous rain and seasonal snowmelt transits through local watersheds. Levels on the Ottawa River are anticipated to decrease slightly over the next few days.

A close watch on local forecasts and conditions is recommended.

Expiry Date:

This message will be in effect until (or updated before): 04/20/2016 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:

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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.