

Watershed Conditions Statement - Water Safety Pembroke District

NEWS

Wednesday, April 08, 2015
12:00pm

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.

Residents of Pembroke District should keep a close watch on conditions, regularly check updated messages and stay away from fast-moving rivers and streams. Residents who have 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 float away as water levels rise.

MNRF 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 being sent on the basis of information received from MNRF - Surface Water Monitoring Centre, MNRF - Aviation Forest Fire and Emergency Management Services, and Environment Canada.

A system is forecast to move into the Province from the southwest today, bringing 10 to 20 mm of rain to areas along the north shore of the lower Great Lakes. Temperatures on Wednesday for southern Ontario are forecast in the 0 to 5 C range.

The system is forecast to intensify into Thursday, April 9, where 30 to 35 mm of rain is forecast over parts of southern Ontario. Due to a risk of thunderstorms, localized rainfall up to 45 mm is possible. Temperatures on Thursday are forecast in the 5 to 12 C range.

On Friday, April 10, the system is forecast to exit the Province dropping residual (up to 10 mm) rain across southern Ontario. Temperatures on Friday are forecast in the 0 to 10 C range.

Description of Current Conditions

Although some of the snowpack has melted over the past few weeks, a significant amount of snow is still present. The water content in the snow varies across the district from below average to about average. Seasonal mild temperatures combined with the forecasted rainfall will continue to melt snow and will increase water levels and flow velocities in local rivers and streams. Smaller streams and creeks will respond quickly to the additional runoff, but larger water bodies, including the reservoir lakes, will take longer to react. Additional water accumulation in areas adjacent to watercourses, road ditches and areas with poor drainage may occur. With the combination of forecasted precipitation and remaining ice cover on local lakes and rivers, there is the potential for ice jams to form and contribute to elevated water levels and flooding in some instances.

Expiry Date:

This message will expire on Friday, April 17 2015, 12:00 AM

Terminology: Notification Levels

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

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.

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 <http://weather.gc.ca/>

The Surface Water Monitoring Centre public webpage can be found here: <http://www.ontario.ca/flooding>