

## **Watershed Conditions Statement - Flood Outlook Pembroke District**

Friday, April 14, 2023  
4:00 pm

The Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry – Pembroke District is advising area residents that a Watershed Conditions Statement - Flood Outlook is in effect for Renfrew County until Wednesday, April 19, 2023.

Residents along the main stem of the Ottawa River, for the area of Lac Coulonge (near Westmeath) and downstream to Arnprior should Consider the following:

Due to significant melt water making its way to the Ottawa River and a rain event forecast for Sunday/Monday, water levels are expected to continue rising above minor flood levels early next week and are expected to plateau below major flood levels.

Minor flooding is defined as: parts of some streets, lawns and parks are beginning to flood, with no or few houses/buildings being affected

Runoff to local lakes and rivers across Renfrew County is anticipated to increase significantly. Water levels and river flows are expected to rise with increased runoff and possible precipitation. 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 water flows and levels rise over the next week.

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

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

## TECHNICAL INFORMATION

### Description of Weather System

A slow moving high pressure system lingering over area has brought unseasonable warmth. This will continue for the next 3-4 days, bringing daytime temperatures as high as in the 20s, with nighttime temperatures dipping to 5 degrees or warmer

Sunday night will see the introduction of a Colorado low which is anticipated to bring some precipitation in the form of showers on Monday.

Into early next week the temperatures will drop back down to 10-15 degree range with nighttime temperatures potentially around the freezing mark. No precipitation anticipated

### Description of Current Conditions

The forecasted warm weather and potential rainfall will cause the snowpack to melt rapidly. Increased runoff will cause river levels and flows to start to rise over the next couple weeks. Flooding may occur in low lying areas, and areas prone to concern. MNRF is closely monitoring the weather and developing watershed conditions. Further updates will be issued as appropriate.

## 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](http://www.ontario.ca/page/surface-water-monitoring-centre)
- Environment Canada bulletins: [www.weather.gc.ca](http://www.weather.gc.ca)
- A close watch on local conditions and weather forecasts from Environment Canada is recommended.

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