

Watershed Conditions Statement - Water Safety

Pembroke District

Tuesday, April 14, 2020
4:00pm

The Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry – Pembroke District is advising area residents that the Watershed Conditions Statement - Water Safety that is in effect in the District has been extended until Wednesday, April 22, 2020.

Residents in Renfrew County should keep a close watch on conditions, regularly check for updated messages and exercise caution near 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.

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

TECHNICAL INFORMATION

Description of Weather System

Minimal precipitation is forecast for the County over the next five days. Daytime highs are forecast to be below 10°C with nighttime lows near or below 0°C.

Description of Current Conditions

Over the past week the snow has continued to gradually melt. Snow remains in forested and low-lying areas and fields and open spaces are now snow free. Cooler temperatures and minimal precipitation over the next five days will result in continued, yet slow snow melt.

Lake levels and flows continue to be moderately elevated but are still within normal ranges for this time of year. Ice on large lakes is starting to melt and most rivers and streams are ice-free.

Continued risks include degradation of ice and ice jam related flooding from increasing water levels and flows, fast moving cold water with rapidly changing conditions and flooding of low-lying areas with a history of flooding.

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
- **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/floodforecast
- Environment Canada bulletins: www.weather.gc.ca
- A close watch on local conditions and weather forecasts from Environment Canada is recommended.