

Watershed Conditions Statement - Flood Outlook
Bancroft-Peterborough District
Including Upper Madawaska River Watershed

Friday, April 28, 2023
3:00 pm

The Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry (MNRF) – **Bancroft Work Centre** is advising area residents that a **Watershed Conditions Statement - Flood Outlook** is in effect until Friday, May 05, 2023. River Sections included in this Flood Outlook: **York River, Madawaska River, Opeongo River and Little Mississippi River.**

Residents should note flows through water control structures will increase to keep water levels within targets for this time of year. These flows are being managed to mitigate, as much as possible, the impacts from snowmelt and rainfall.

Lower-lying portions of known flood-prone areas may be impacted to various degrees as lake/river levels rise over the next week.

With rain, warmer temperatures and melting snow, banks and shorelines adjacent to water bodies can be extremely slippery and unstable. Residents and visitors should exercise caution while around waterbodies and maintain close supervision of children and pets.

Residents that may be affected by high water and flow conditions should take necessary action to protect/secure any vulnerable property in proximity to rivers and lakes and closely monitor developing conditions and regularly check for updated messages.

The ministry 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's Surface Water Monitoring Centre and Environment Canada.

As of April 28, 2023, the Bancroft area is forecasted to receive up to 44-56mm of rainfall over the next five days.

Daytime highs over the next week are forecasted to range between +8°C and +18°C while nighttime lows range between +4°C and +7°C in the area.

Description of Current Conditions

Rivers, lakes and reservoirs in the area are elevated but have slowly declined through the week. Large amounts of rainfall occurring over the course of the next few days will increase these water levels. Flows will increase at water control structures throughout the weekend and into next week.

The MNRF continues to closely monitor local lakes and rivers as this event progresses. The MNRF is in regular communication with partner agencies and water control structure operators, including Conservation Authorities, Ontario Power Generation (OPG), and Bracebridge Generation.

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

Kelly Milne, IRM Technical Specialist, Bancroft Work Centre, 343-401-6178