

For Immediate Release

Minden, ON. Tuesday May 9, 2017

5:00 p.m.

Release #17-33



SUBJECT: Water Conditions Update

Water Conditions:

Gull River Watershed

The Gull River Watershed continues to be very vulnerable to the inflow of water.

Water levels have risen 7 cm since yesterday and are expected to rise. Due to the continual movement of water from the upper lakes and un-forecasted precipitation, cresting of the Gull River is unknown at this time. The Gull River is nearing levels experienced in 2013 and some of the reservoir lakes have exceeded capacity and historic high levels.

It is highly recommended that property owners, especially those who have a historical susceptibility to flooding at these levels make appropriate preparations including sandbagging and self-evacuation for family and pets.

In the event of an emergency and you are unable to evacuate yourself from your residence, call 911. Please indicate that the call is not for a medical emergency but for evacuation from your residence. If you have evacuated, you are encouraged to register at the Red Cross Reception Centre, located at the S.G Nesbitt Community Centre, 55 Parkside Street, Minden.

Burnt River Watershed

The Burnt River has crested and may begin to recede. Extreme caution is urged. The public and residents are to avoid areas with fast flowing and high water levels.

All Property owners are being asked to monitor their situation, as each will vary based on some, or all of the following factors: distance from watershed(s), distance from an unaffected accessible road, height of land, property saturation levels, the availability, number, size and type of sump pump, etc.

General:

For public safety reasons it is critical that no one other than TSW officials are to perform log adjustments to local dams. This could result in serious implications to the management of the flow of water and balancing of the watershed levels.

Owners of waterfront properties are asked to secure any loose items such as outdoor furniture, boats, docks, etc.

Residents are asked to share this information with their neighbours and other individuals who may not have access to the Township's website.

For information on water levels, please visit the Trent Severn Waterway at http://avalanche.pc.gc.ca/lhn-nhs/on/trentsevern/visit/ne-wl/trent_e.asp

Many of the local ditches are holding water, and residents are reminded to stay clear of these areas.

The Minden Riverwalk, Loggers Pedestrian Bridge, Boardwalk and Rotary Park are **CLOSED**.

Signs and Barricades have been posted at roads closed due to flooding. **DO NOT** drive on these roads unless you are a resident of the road. Roadways under water may create unstable and dangerous conditions. **It is illegal to remove barricades and signs.**

A reminder that private roads are not being monitored by the Township and those residents needing to access these roads should do so with caution.

Bobcaygeon Road “Sunnybrook” Main Street Bridge Closure:

For current road and bridge closures, please refer to Media Release #17-32.

A reminder that due to public safety concerns from the flooding in the village of Minden the Bobcaygeon Road “Sunnybrook” Main Street Bridge remains **CLOSED**.

Access to the Minden hospital is as follows, **please refer to the detour signs:**

- Hwy 35 to Deep Bay Road (19 km distance in total)
- Hwy 35 to Scotchline Road, left onto Bobcaygeon Road and right onto Deep Bay Road (5.5 km distance in total)

Sandbags:

Sand and sandbags continue to be available at the following locations:

- S.G. Nesbitt Community Centre, located at 55 Parkside Street, Minden.
- Roads Department Yard #3, located at 4564 County Road 121 (Kinmount location), in the Sand Dome to the left of the entrance.
- Furnace Falls Park entrance, located on County Road 503.
- Lady Fatima Catholic Church, 7 Bobcaygeon Road (off of Hwy 35 at the intersection of Bobcaygeon Road and IGA Road)

This resource is primarily self-serve, please remember a shovel. Residents are encouraged to think of their neighbours - don't forget about those around you that may have difficulty with this task.

The filling of sandbags will continue daily at the S.G Nesbitt Community Centre location only.

Limited quantities of these prepared sandbags will be available. We kindly ask that you consider others and their ability to prepare their own sandbags when accessing this service.

Please see the following link regarding the proper procedures for the filling and placement of sandbags:

<https://mindenhills.ca/assets/Sand-bagging-and-dike-construction.pdf>

Suggestions to Assist you During a Flood Warning:

- Be Prepared - Build an Emergency Survival Kit that allows you to be self-sufficient for at least 72 Hours.
- Keep Emergency Contacts Near Your Phone
- Check Your Sump Pumps - Ensure the sump pit is clear of debris and that all electrical connections are plugged in correctly and circuit breakers are operational. Check your maintenance manual for instructions on how to check the float, test the check valve and clean the impeller.
- Hydro – If you are concerned about water in or around your residence, or other buildings, call the Hydro Call Centre at 1-888-664-9376. Disconnected services may impact water removal equipment (i.e. sump pumps); therefore, it may also be necessary to contact your insurance company.
- Remember to keep all items up and off the floor where potential flooding could occur.

For more information regarding notices, including road closures, water levels and suggestions to assist you during the Flood Warning, please visit the Township website at www.mindenhills.ca. Information on road closures can also be obtained by visiting the Road Closure App, accessible from the township website or by typing the following url into your web browser's search bar: roadclosures.haliburtoncounty.ca

To receive important information and updates, including in the event of an emergency, please ensure that you are subscribed to the Minden Hills website, by following these easy instructions:

- On the bottom right hand side of the Minden Hills website, type in your email address into the "Subscribe to Alerts" box and click the gray arrow.
- Confirm your email address on the next prompt screen.
- Enter in the digits in the captcha box and click the submit button.
- You should receive an email to complete the subscription process, if you don't, check your junk mail.
- Your confirmation email will provide you with a link, select the link.
- The link will allow you to customize your subscription list.
- Select "Emergency Alerts" to receive emergency posts and notifications.
- Select "Newsroom" to receive all other non-emergency posts, including water levels and road closures notifications.
- Select other categories if interested in receiving notifications.
- Select save.

The Township will communicate all information by means of broadcasting media releases to local media, radio stations and the Township website.

Tune into Canoe FM 100.9 and Moose FM 93.5 for these broadcasts.
For Municipal Emergency contact after hours call: 1-866-856-3247
For Emergency Services call: 911

For more information please visit www.mindenhills.ca for accurate updates.

-30-

Contact Information:

Mark Coleman, Emergency Information Officer/Director of Community Services
Township of Minden Hills
PO Box 359, 7 Milne Street
Minden, ON K0M 2K0
mcoleman@mindenhills.ca