

For Immediate Release

Minden, ON. Friday May 12, 2017

3:30 p.m.

Release #17- 45



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 decreased 2-3 cm since yesterday, however the Gull River Watershed continues to remain in a flood warning.

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 continue to 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 is rapidly receding. Extreme caution is still encouraged. 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.

For information regarding **Available Services** please refer to Media Releases provided on the Township website. This releases will be updated as information changes or becomes available.

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.

Road and Bridge Closures:

For current and comprehensive list of road and bridge closures, please refer to Media Release #17-43.

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 signage indicates “open to local traffic only”. Roadways under water may create unstable and dangerous conditions.

DO NOT remove barricades and signage.

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.

Downtown Area Closures:

For the following reasons, the road closures provided below remain in effect:

- Public Safety
- Protection of Municipal Infrastructure
- Access for Emergency Services to the downtown area

Please obey and DO NOT REMOVE barricades and signs

- The **Bobcaygeon Road “Sunnybrook” Main Street Bridge** is **CLOSED** to vehicular traffic and all pedestrian use, until further notice.
- The following roads remain **CLOSED** until further notice, to vehicular traffic and non-essential pedestrian use.
 - **Bobcaygeon Road** at the intersection of Newcastle Street
 - **Milne Street** at the intersections of Water Street and Newcastle Street

Bobcaygeon Road and **Newcastle Street** at Highway 35, will remain open at this time.

Booth Street connecting to Prince Street remains closed.

*** As it relates to the **above information only**, the following map is provided for further clarity ***

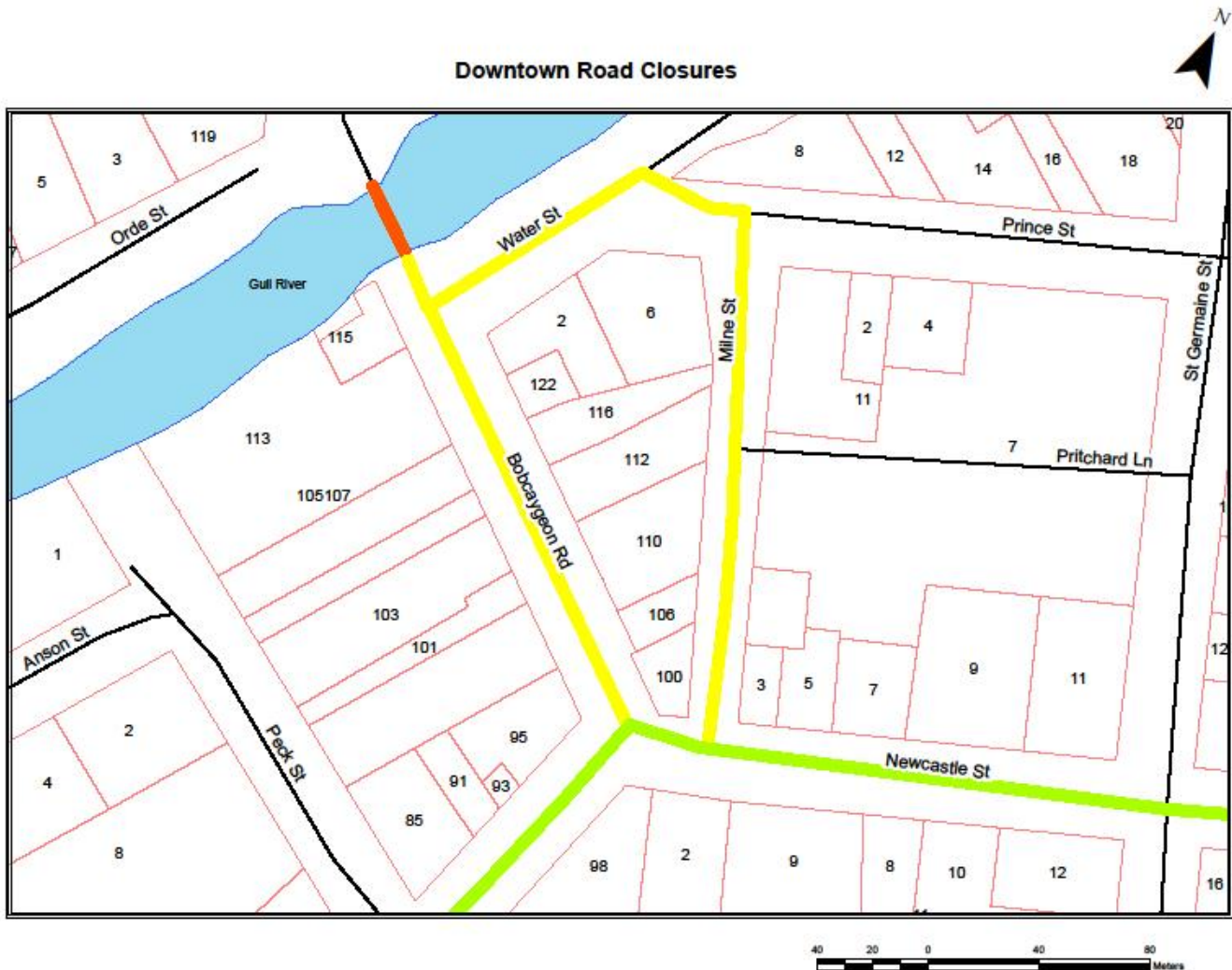
Map:

Key Legend

Green: Open to Vehicular and Pedestrian

Yellow: Closed to Vehicular and **Non-Essential** Pedestrian

Red: Closed to Vehicular and All Pedestrian



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.

Limited quantities of prepared sandbags will be available at the S.G. Nesbitt Community. 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.

Township Communication

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