

Flood Watch Bancroft District

NEWS

Wednesday, March 30, 2016

1:30pm

The Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry - Bancroft District is advising area residents that a Flood Watch is in effect for the Bancroft District.

Water levels and flows in local lakes and rivers are expected to rise following significant rainfall forecasted across the area beginning overnight tonight.

It is expected that lower-lying portions of known flood-prone roads along river courses may be impacted to various degrees as river and creek levels rise.

Vulnerable, low-lying roads and properties along the York River and Gull River watersheds may begin to be impacted as river flows increase. Residents in all areas who are historically susceptible to flooding should take necessary action to protect property and continue to monitor developing conditions closely. People are asked to stay away from fast-moving rivers and streams.

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

In addition, a Flood Warning is in effect for the Burnt and Black River watersheds.

TECHNICAL INFORMATION

Description of Weather System

This message is being sent on the basis of information received from MNRF - Surface Water Monitoring Centre, MNRF - Aviation Forest Fire and Emergency Management Services, Trent Severn Waterway, Environment Canada and observed conditions

Environment Canada has issued a rainfall warning for areas within Bancroft District. Starting overnight tonight and through the day tomorrow a system is expected to bring rain, at times heavy, with potential totals of 25-50mm. There is also the risk of an isolated thunderstorm. Daily high temperatures are forecast to range from 9°C to 12°C through Friday before returning to colder temperatures on the weekend.

Description of Current Conditions

Although some of the snowpack has melted over the past couple weeks, a significant amount of snow is still present in upper reaches of our watersheds. Snow depth and the water content contained in the snow pack increases the further north you get within Bancroft district. Reservoir lakes are at or below target levels throughout the district. Streams and rivers are still flowing quickly from the rainfall that was received Sunday night through Monday.

The combination of the warm temperatures and the forecast rainfall will accelerate melting of the snowpack and generate runoff into lakes and rivers. Residents in low-lying areas on the York and Gull River may experience flooding.

The MNRF is in regular communication with partner agencies and water control structure operators, including Conservation Authorities, Ontario Power Generation (OPG), Bracebridge Generation and the TSW.

Expiry Date:

This message will expire on 04/04/2016 12:00 PM

Terminology: Notification Levels

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

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

FLOOD WATCH: potential for flooding exists within specific watercourses and municipalities

FLOOD WARNING: flooding is imminent or occurring within specific watercourses and municipalities

Contact Information

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A close watch on local conditions and weather forecasts from Environment Canada is recommended. Environment Canada bulletins can be found at <http://weather.gc.ca/>

The Surface Water Monitoring Centre public webpage can be found here:
www.ontario.ca/flooding