

Watershed Conditions Statement - Water Safety

Midhurst District

NEWS

Tuesday, May 07, 2019
11:00am

The Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry – Midhurst District is advising area residents that a Watershed Conditions Statement - Water Safety bulletin is in effect for the northern areas of Simcoe County including Severn, Ramara, Tiny and Tay Townships. Specifically, areas around Lake St. John and along the Severn River in the townships of Severn and Ramara until Monday, May 13, 2019 at 3:00 pm.

Residents in the area should use caution around water bodies as water levels and flows continue to remain high. Residents and those visiting the area are advised to be aware of current watershed conditions, exercise caution while around water bodies and maintain close supervision of children and pets.

MNRF 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 based on information received from MNRF – Surface Water Monitoring Centre, MNRF – Aviation Forest Fire and Emergency Management Services, Trent Severn Waterway (TSW) and Environment Canada.

Rainfall forecasts are currently predicting up to 30mm of rain possible later this week for the northern areas of Simcoe County.

The warmer and dryer weather over the last few days has helped water levels to recede, but flows remain high in some lakes and rivers in the area.

Description of Current Conditions

Flows in the Black River continue to decline, and this trend is expected to continue over the next few days. Water levels on Lake St. John are expected to continue to recede in

the coming days. Flows throughout the Severn River are expected to remain high and fast moving into next week. Residents should continue to monitor conditions and avoid fast flowing water around these lakes and rivers.

DEFINITIONS

- **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.

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.

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