

**Flood Warning
Flood Outlook
Parry Sound District**

NEWS

Thursday, May 09, 2019
12:00

The Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry – Parry Sound District is advising area residents that:

Flood Warning is in effect for the Muskoka River, French River and Lower Pickerel River Watersheds

Flood Outlook is in effect for the remainder of the MNRF Parry Sound District.

These messages will remain in effect until Friday, May 17, 2019.

Residents and those visiting the area are advised to be aware of current watershed conditions. Higher than normal water levels and flow conditions exist throughout the area and residents are reminded to keep a close watch on weather conditions, regularly check for updated messages and exercise caution near fast-moving rivers and streams.

It is expected that lower-lying portions of known flood-prone roads along river courses will be impacted to various degrees as lake/river levels remain high over the next week.

Banks and shorelines adjacent to water bodies are extremely unstable. Residents and visitors should exercise caution while around water bodies and maintain close supervision of children and pets.

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

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

TECHNICAL INFORMATION

Description of Weather System

Rainfall amounts of 20 – 40 mm over most of southern and the southern half of northeast region are expected. Current forecasts also indicate the potential for moderate thunderstorms to be embedded in this weather system, increasing rainfall accumulations by 10 - 25 mm or more.

A strong low pressure system will move into the North Bay and Sudbury areas overnight Wednesday bringing significant rainfall affecting the Lake Nipissing and French River areas. Precipitation is forecast to continue into Thursday, tapering off Friday. Forecasted precipitation in these areas will range from 30-50 mm. 30 km/h east winds gusting to 50 km/h are forecast for the Lake Nipissing area. With the current high water levels these winds could produce damaging wave action.

Description of Current Conditions

Water levels are beginning to recede in many lakes at this time, however flows in rivers will remain high as the water moves through the system. It is expected that lower-lying portions of known flood-prone areas along lakes/rivers may be impacted to various degrees as lake/river levels remain high and this additional rain enters the system.

This rainfall event is expected to slow the rate of drop on the lakes within the watershed. Lakes that are currently stable or dropping slowly may see levels rise due to this event.

Residents along the French River may see a rise in water levels over the next week as a result from the forecasted precipitation, increased stormwater runoff or as a result of increased discharge from Lake Nipissing.

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.

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ontario.ca/mnrf
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