

Watershed Conditions Statement - Water Safety

North Bay District

Thursday, April 11, 2024
9:30am

The Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry – North Bay District, is advising area residents that a Watershed Conditions Statement - Water Safety is in effect in the District until Friday, April 19, 2024.

Residents in the North Bay District area should keep a close watch on conditions and exercise caution around rivers and streams. Please alert and monitor any children under your care to possible dangers and supervise their activities. The forecasted precipitation for tonight and into the weekend could cause local flooding in low lying areas.

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

TECHNICAL INFORMATION

Description of Weather System

A strong low-pressure system (“Texas Low”) is forecast to move across the province today through Friday, bringing a significant amount of rain to the Northeast Region. The system is expected to arrive late this morning to early afternoon. Precipitation amounts are expected to vary both days.

On Thursday, up to 25mm of rain is forecasted for southern reaches of the district with up to 35mm forecasted for northern reaches. Friday’s rain amounts will decrease in the south and increase in the north with up to 10mm and 40mm of rain forecasted respectively. Rain will turn to light snow throughout the district overnight on Friday and into Saturday. Nighttime temperatures will hover around the freezing mark over the next few days.

Description of Current Conditions

Water levels and flows in local watercourses are within the normal range for this time of year. Lakes in the northern reaches of the district still have some ice and some snow may be present in sheltered areas. The ground is saturated to frozen throughout the district, leaving it unable to absorb much, if any, of the forecasted precipitation. Given the current

conditions, the forecast rain is expected to produce moderate to high runoff. Although no widespread flooding is expected at this time, water levels and flows in rivers and lakes will increase and flooding in low-lying areas and areas with poor drainage is possible.

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
- **SHORELINE CONDITIONS STATEMENT – WATER SAFETY**: indicates that **along the Great Lakes shorelines high water**, melting ice or other factors could be dangerous but flooding is not expected.
- **SHORELINE CONDITIONS STATEMENT – FLOOD OUTLOOK**: gives early notice of the potential for flooding **along the Great Lakes shorelines** based on weather and lake conditions, and water safety information.
- **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/page/surface-water-monitoring-centre
- Environment Canada bulletins: www.weather.gc.ca
- A close watch on local conditions and weather forecasts from Environment Canada is recommended.