

Watershed Conditions Statement - Flood Outlook

North Bay District

Friday, April 12, 2024
3:30pm

The Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry – North Bay District, is advising area residents that a Watershed Conditions Statement - Flood Outlook 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 ending overnight on Friday 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”) continues to move across the province today, bringing a significant amount of rain to Northeastern Ontario. The system is expected to taper off by Saturday morning as it continues its eastward trajectory towards Quebec. 15mm to 37mm have been recorded in Northeastern Ontario over the last 24 hours. An additional 20-30mm of rain is expected to fall today.

Rain continues to be forecasted to turn to light snow throughout the district overnight on Friday and into Saturday morning. Nighttime temperatures will hover around the freezing mark into early next week.

Description of Current Conditions

With the increased amount of rainfall throughout the district, water levels and flows are increasing, responding to runoff produced by the rain. District watercourses are starting to reach their maximum ranges 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

precipitation. Although no widespread flooding is expected at this time, water levels and flows in rivers and lakes have increased 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.