

Watershed Conditions Statement - Water Safety

Bracebridge Minden Parry Sound District

Severn, Black, Magnetawan and Muskoka River Watersheds

Monday, January 06, 2025
4:00pm

The Ministry of Natural Resources – Bracebridge Minden Parry Sound District is advising area residents that a Watershed Conditions Statement - Water Safety Bulletin is in effect in the District until Tuesday, January 14, 2025.

This message will impact residents within the MNR Bracebridge Minden Parry Sound District for portions of the District of Parry Sound, and District of Muskoka within the Severn, Black, Magnetawan and Muskoka River Watersheds.

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.

Lake water levels in some areas remain above the normal operating zone for this time of year.

MNR advises residents to exercise extreme caution concerning ice conditions. No ice is safe ice.

Residents and visitors should exercise caution while around waterbodies and maintain close supervision of children and pets.

Residents that have been affected by high water and flow conditions in the past should continue take necessary action to protect/secure any vulnerable property in proximity to rivers and lakes and closely monitor developing conditions and regularly check for updated messages.

Lower-lying portions of known flood-prone areas may be impacted to various degrees.

Residents that have been affected by high water and flow conditions in the past should continue take necessary action to protect/secure any vulnerable property in proximity to rivers and lakes and closely monitor developing conditions and regularly check for updated messages.

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 cold front is moving slowly south across the province of Ontario. It is bringing cold, sub-zero, temperatures and sustained winds.

The weather forecast is calling for daytime highs of -4°C to -14°C, and overnight lows are forecasted between -9°C and -20°C for the next 7 days. No significant precipitation is forecasted.

Description of Current Conditions

There is no flooding is anticipated at this time.

Lake levels and river flows have peaked and are declining as the water moves through the watershed.

Most managed lake water levels are between the target operating level and the upper limit of the normal operating zone. However, some water bodies are still experiencing elevated water levels. Dam operations continue to be completed to move water through the watersheds.

It is anticipated that lake water levels and river flows will continue to decrease over the next week.

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/page/surface-water-monitoring-centre
- Environment Canada bulletins: [www. weather.gc.ca](http://www.weather.gc.ca)
- A close watch on local conditions and weather forecasts from Environment Canada is recommended.

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