

Flood Watch

Watershed Conditions Statement - Flood Outlook

Bracebridge-Minden-Parry Sound District

Friday, March 21, 2025
11:00am

The Ministry of Natural Resources (MNR)– Bracebridge-Minden-Parry Sound District is advising area residents that a Flood Watch bulletin and a Watershed Conditions Statement - Flood Outlook bulletin is in effect in portions of the District until Friday, March 28, 2025.

The Flood Watch will affect residents within the MNR Bracebridge-Minden-Parry Sound District for portions of the District of Muskoka, within the area of the North Branch of the Muskoka River and on the Moon River (Bala Reach). Residents should expect water levels to continue to increase: the potential for flooding on these watersheds exists.

The parts of the MNR Bracebridge-Minden-Parry Sound District not mentioned above or included in the Flood Watch issued on Wednesday, March 19, 2025, continue to be subject to a Watershed Conditions Statement - Flood Outlook.

Residents and those visiting the area are advised to be aware of current watershed conditions. Higher than normal water levels and flow conditions may develop 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.

Runoff to local lakes and rivers has increased significantly with recent rainfall, snow melt and warm weather.

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.

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

TECHNICAL INFORMATION

Description of Weather System

Following recent days of warm temperatures and precipitation, the weather forecast suggests that temperatures will begin to drop with daytime highs closer to the freezing point and nighttime lows as cold as -14°C. These cooler temperatures should slow the inputs into the watersheds.

Description of Current Conditions

Lake water levels are increasing due to recent precipitation and runoff, and this trend is expected to continue over the weekend. River levels and flows, particularly in the North Branch Muskoka River and the Moon River (Bala Reach), are anticipated to remain high throughout 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
- A close watch on local conditions and weather forecasts from Environment and Climate Change Canada is recommended.

Water Management Team, Bracebridge Minden Parry Sound
District Office, 705-645-8747 or
watermanagement.psdistrict@ontario.ca

ontario.ca/mnr
Disponible en français