

**Watershed Conditions Statement - Water Safety**  
**Peterborough Bancroft District**

Tuesday, March 05, 2024  
3:00 pm

The Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry (MNRF) – **Bancroft Work Centre** is advising area residents that a **Watershed Conditions Statement - Water Safety** is in effect until Friday, March 15, 2024. This message will affect residents within the Bancroft area.

The snowpack has been slowly melting as a result of the warm weather.

Residents should note that water levels on lakes and rivers will begin to rise this week.

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

**TECHNICAL INFORMATION**

**Description of Weather System**

This message is based on information received from MNRF's Surface Water Monitoring Centre and Environment Canada.

As of March 4<sup>th</sup> the Bancroft area is forecasted to receive 35mm of rainfall over the next 5 days.

Daytime highs for the next 6 days range from 3°C to 10°C, with evening lows ranging from -5°C to 2°C.

**Description of Current Conditions**

The MNRF continues to closely monitor local lakes and rivers as this event progresses. The MNRF is in regular communication with partner agencies and water control structure operators, including Conservation Authorities, Ontario Power Generation (OPG), and Bracebridge Generation.

The water equivalence in the snowpack for the Peterborough-Bancroft district on February 15<sup>th</sup> was approximately 50% of average levels. More recent snow surveys show that the snowpack has further declined.

Lakes and Rivers in the area are still at seasonal levels. Lake levels and flows in creeks and rivers will slowly rise as a result of the warm weather and forecasted rains. No flood related issues are predicted at this time.

A close watch on local forecasts and conditions is recommended.

## 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](http://www.ontario.ca/flooding)
- 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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