

**Watershed Conditions Statement - Water Safety
Little Mississippi River****NEWS****Tuesday, July 11, 2017
11:00am**

The Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry - Bancroft District is advising area residents that a **Watershed Conditions Statement - Water Safety** is in effect for the Little Mississippi River watershed including Weslemkoon Lake.

Residents in this area should keep a close watch on conditions, regularly check for updated messages and exercise caution near fast-moving rivers and streams. Residents who have a historic susceptibility to flooding should take appropriate precautions to protect their property.

MNRF advises caution when using forest access roads for outdoor activities. Many are seasonally inundated with water, prone to washouts, and may be impassable due to current water levels. The public should avoid crossing any submerged roads as there may be a risk to traveler safety. Barricades are erected at roads where known washouts or dangerous driving conditions have been observed.

MNRF 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 being sent on the basis of information received from MNRF - Surface Water Monitoring Centre and locally observed conditions.

Seasonal temperatures in the low to mid-twenties are expected throughout the week, with 20-30mm of accumulated precipitation forecast over the next five days.

Description of Current Conditions

While water levels in reservoir lakes across the District are higher than normal at this time of year, they are continuing to recede. Water levels on Weslemkoon Lake and water flow in the Little Mississippi River remain elevated, and are more typical of what would normally only be seen during spring runoff. Recent rainfall accumulation has led to above average water levels and discharge rates for this time of year. Water levels and flows are expected to start trending downward however the forecast precipitation may have a continued effect on levels and flows.

The MNRF is in regular communication with partner agencies and water control structure operators, including Conservation Authorities, Ontario Power Generation (OPG), Bracebridge Generation and the TSW.

Expiry Date:

This message will expire on 07/18/2017 9:00 AM

Terminology: Notification Levels

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

Contact Information

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A close watch on local conditions and weather forecasts from Environment Canada is recommended. Environment Canada bulletins can be found at <http://weather.gc.ca/>

The Surface Water Monitoring Centre public webpage can be found here:
www.ontario.ca/flooding