

## FLOOD WATCH

**DATE:** March 15, 2019

**TIME:** 9:00 am

**Message sent on the basis of information received from:**

- **Kawartha Conservation Flood Forecasting Network**
- **Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry - Surface Water Monitoring Centre**
- **Environment Canada**
- **Trent-Severn Waterway**



**A FLOOD WATCH is now in effect for the Kawartha Conservation watershed jurisdiction.**

A series of rain showers and thunderstorms have passed through southern Ontario, including the Kawartha Conservation watershed, over the last 24 hours. Rain gauges across the watershed have recorded 5 to 15 mm of precipitation. Air temperature has reached as high 10°C, creating favourable conditions for snowmelt.

Precipitation, combined with snowmelt and frozen ground conditions are resulting in significant runoff. Water levels in local rivers and streams are currently rapidly increasing or peaking and exceeding their bankfull conditions in multiple locations. Smaller streams are responding faster, while it takes longer for larger watercourses to react.

In these watershed conditions all local watercourses run very high and fast. Flooding in low lying areas, areas adjacent to streams and road ditches has been observed. Surface water roads flooding may occur. Ponding of water on urban surfaces may occur as storm sewer systems can become overwhelmed by high runoff or clogged with snow, ice and debris. Rapid deterioration of the ice cover on local rivers and streams has been observed.

As precipitation moves out of the region later today and air temperature returning back to below freezing mark, it is expected that water levels will stabilize and start declining.

Under these watershed conditions all local watercourses should be considered extremely dangerous. Kawartha Conservation is warning all residents to stay away from all water bodies, as well as water structures such as bridges, culverts, and dams. Riverbanks are slippery and unsafe; ice cover where it exists is unstable and hazardous. Children should be warned of dangerous conditions and caregivers should maintain a close watch on children who are outside.

**Municipalities are advised to monitor areas known for flooding and be prepared to respond to high water situations as they occur. As local municipalities are first to respond to and assist with flood emergencies, residents are advised to contact their municipalities should a flood threat develop.**

**KAWARTHA CONSERVATION**  
277 Kenrei Road, Lindsay, ON K9V 4R1  
705.328.2271 Fax 705.328.2286  
[KawarthaConservation.com](http://KawarthaConservation.com)

***Our Watershed Partners:***

City of Kawartha Lakes • Region of Durham • Township of Scugog • Municipality of Clarington • Township of Brock • Municipality of Trent Lakes • Township of Cavan Monaghan



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Trent-Severn Waterway officials are closely watching this current situation and will be adjusting dam settings throughout the system when the situation warrants. Staff from the Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry are monitoring water levels of the Burnt and Gull rivers.

Burnt and Gull River levels are monitored by staff from the Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry (MNR). Residents along these two rivers are requested to direct any questions concerning water levels to the MNR Minden office at 705-286-5207, or refer to the City of Kawartha Lakes website below for additional information:  
[www.kawarthalakes.ca/flood](http://www.kawarthalakes.ca/flood).

For assistance in the event of a flood, and sandbag requests, please call your municipality

This *Flood Warning* will be in effect until Monday, March 19<sup>th</sup>, 2019. Kawartha Conservation will continue monitoring water levels and watershed conditions and notify the public and municipalities within its watershed jurisdiction of any changes. If you are aware of or have concerns about flooding, please contact Kawartha Conservation at 705.328.2271 or 705.344.0155 after hours.

Iryna Shulyarenko

Hydrologist

Emma Collyer

Director, Integrated Watershed Management

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**A Flood Watch is a notice that flooding is possible in specific watercourses or municipalities.**

**Municipalities, emergency services, and individual landowners in flood-prone areas should prepare. Responses to flood events are handled by Municipal emergency services.**

**Flood Forecasting services for the Burnt and Gull Rivers watersheds is provided by Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry, Minden Office (tel. 705-286-5207)**

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