



LOWER TRENT
CONSERVATION

WATER LEVEL BULLETIN

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Flood Warning

Flood Warning Update (Trent River) Flood Warning (Lake Ontario/Bay of Quinte)

A **Flood Warning** is issued when **flooding is beginning/occurring** or when **more serious flooding is possible**. A Flood Warning requires action that may include the activation of the municipal flood emergency plan, warning residents or businesses in specific affected areas, and in some cases evacuation.

DATE: May 8, 2017

TIME: 2:20 PM

ISSUED TO: Municipalities (Alnwick/Haldimand, Brighton, Centre Hastings, Cramahe, Quinte West, Stirling-Rawdon, Trent Hills), Northumberland & Hastings Counties, Ministry of Natural Resources & Forestry, Trent-Severn Waterway, Ontario Power Generation, Innergex, Media, Health Units, Emergency Response Agencies

MESSAGE #: LTC – 17 – 14

Significant rainfall during the first week of May, above normal rain through April, and saturated ground conditions is continuing to cause water level concerns across much of the Lower Trent Conservation watershed region (an area stretching from Quinte West to Grafton, and from Lake Ontario to Rice Lake).

Flood Warning Update – Trent River

The Flood Warning issued on May 5, 2017 for the Trent River from Hastings to Trenton remains in effect.

Water levels and flows along the entire Trent River watershed continue to rise in response to extremely wet conditions during April and through early May. Water levels have reached 2014 levels in the Glen Ross section of the river and are approaching 2014 levels along Percy Reach.

Residents living along Rice Lake and the Trent River within the municipalities of Alnwick/Haldimand, Trent Hills and Quinte West are advised to expect further increases in water levels and flows for at least the next 7 to 10 days as inflows from upstream areas (Haliburton and Kawartha Lakes areas) continue to rise. The rate of rise will slow during the week as there is no significant rainfall in the forecast.

Flood Warning – Lake Ontario/Bay of Quinte

Lower Trent Conservation advises municipalities and the public that the Flood Watch issued on May 1, 2017 for the Lake Ontario and Bay of Quinte shoreline from Grafton to Quinte West has been **upgraded to a Flood Warning**.

Lake Ontario water levels have risen 27 cm since the beginning of May. The water level measured at Cobourg is currently at 75.67 masl (metres above sea level) which is 3 cm below the Lake Ontario 100 year flood elevation of 75.70 masl. The current level has surpassed past high water levels reached in both 1974 and 1993.

Residents living in low lying, flood prone shoreline areas should anticipate further water level increases through May, and possibly into June if the wet weather persists. Additionally surge related flooding and erosion damages from high waves is possible during periods of strong onshore winds. Residents should pay close attention to weather forecasts for approaching storm systems with high southeast, south or southwest winds.

Property owners are also reminded that any work along the shoreline (e.g. placement of fill, armour stone, etc.) will require a permit from Lower Trent Conservation and should call the office or visit the website (www.ltc.on.ca) for more information.

Small tributary creeks/streams – Flood Watch cancelled

Water levels and flows along the small tributary creeks and streams across the watershed region including Shelter Valley, Colborne, Smithfield, Butler, Mayhew, Trout, Burnley, Percy, Hoards, Salt, Cold, and Rawdon Creeks reached top of bank condition or slightly higher in response to significant rainfall amounts over the weekend. By Sunday, May 7, all stream levels had peaked and will continue to drop through this week.

Residents living in low-lying, flood prone areas should take actions to protect themselves and their property. Homeowners affected by flooding should also be aware that electrical, well and septic issues may exist. The public should pay attention to Health Unit guidelines for ensuring safe drinking water.

Local municipalities are the first to respond to, and assist with, flood emergencies. The City of Quinte West, Municipality of Trent Hills, and Municipality of Brighton are making sandbagging supplies available to their residents. Residents requiring assistance should contact their local municipality. If you experience a flood emergency, call 911.

If safe to do so, the public is encouraged to share photos of water concerns in their area via Facebook (@lower trent conservation) or Twitter (@LowerTrent).

The public is advised to exercise extreme caution around all waterways. Strong currents pose a safety hazard to anyone. Areas around water control structures should be avoided at all times.

Lower Trent Conservation monitors water levels and weather forecasts as part of its flood forecasting and warning program. Daily water level information is available on the Lower Trent Conservation website at <http://www.ltc.on.ca/flood/ffw/cc/>. If you have concerns about water levels, please contact Lower Trent Conservation at (613) 394-4829.

An update to this Flood Warning for the Trent River and Lake Ontario/Bay of Quinte will be provided on Friday, May 12, 2017. Additional statements will be issued if conditions are expected to change significantly from this outlook.

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