



WATER LEVEL BULLETIN

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LOWER TRENT
CONSERVATION

Flood Warning (Trent River) **Flood Watch (Small tributary creeks/streams)** **Flood Watch Update (Lake Ontario/Bay of Quinte)**

DATE: May 5, 2017

TIME: 1:00 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 – 12

Significant rainfall amounts during the first week of May, above normal rain through April, and saturated ground conditions is resulting in the issuing of a number of Water Level Bulletins for the Lower Trent Conservation watershed region (an area stretching from Quinte West to Grafton, and from Lake Ontario to Rice Lake).

Flood Warning

A graphic consisting of a red speech bubble pointing downwards, containing the text "Flood Warning". Below the speech bubble is a horizontal bar divided into four colored segments: green, yellow, orange, and red.

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.

Flood Warning – Trent River

The Flood Watch issued on May 2, 2017 for the **Trent River from Hastings to Trenton** has been upgraded to a **Flood Warning**.

Due to the significant rainfall over the past few weeks and no additional storage capacity in the reservoir lakes of the Haliburton area and Kawartha Lakes, water flows and levels on Rice Lake & the Trent River will continue to increase for at least the next 7 to 10 days.

For residents living along the Rice Lake and the Trent River within the municipalities of Alnwick/Haldimand, Trent Hills and Quinte West, water levels and flows will exceed those reached several weeks ago during the spring runoff.

Flood Watch



A **Flood Watch** is issued when there is a **potential for flooding** to occur in low-lying areas. **Nuisance or minor flooding** of access roads, backyards, basements, etc. is anticipated. **Buildings/people are not at risk.**

Flood Watch – Small tributary creeks/streams

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 are rising quickly in response to saturated ground conditions and significant rainfall of the past week. Residents should be aware of the potential for flooding in low-lying areas.

Flood Watch Update – Lake Ontario/Bay of Quinte

Residents living along the Lake Ontario and Bay of Quinte shoreline from Grafton to Quinte West are reminded that a Flood Watch remains in effect for shoreline areas as water levels are well above the long term monthly average. The last time Lake Ontario reached current levels was 25 years ago. Water levels are expected to continue rising 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 (south east, 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.

Residents should ensure their sump pumps are working and secure personal property (boats, docks, etc.) along all shorelines. Homeowners affected by flooding should be aware that electrical, well and septic issues may exist. The public should pay attention to Health Unit guidelines for ensuring safe drinking water.

Localized flooding is also possible in urban areas where storm drains may not be able to handle runoff during heavy downpours.

Local municipalities are the first to respond to, and assist with, flood emergencies. Residents requiring assistance should contact their local municipality. If you experience a flood emergency, call 911.

Everyone is advised to exercise extreme caution around all waterways. Boaters and anglers heading out on the water this weekend should be aware that water flows and levels at the mouth of the Trent River and Bay of Quinte are high. 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 at www.ltc.on.ca. If you have concerns about water levels, please contact Lower Trent Conservation at (613) 394-4829.

For more information contact:

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