

Flood Warning
Bracebridge Minden Parry Sound District
French River and Lower Pickerel River Watersheds

Thursday, May 04, 2023
2:00pm

The Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry – Bracebridge Minden Parry Sound District is advising area residents that a Flood Warning is in effect until Friday, May 12, 2023. This message will affect residents within the MNRF Bracebridge Minden Parry Sound District for portions of the District of Parry Sound within the unorganized Townships of Mowat, Blair, and McConkey. River Sections included in this Flood Warning are: **French River and Lower Pickerel River.**

Lower-lying portions of known flood-prone areas are impacted to various degrees.

Be cautious if traveling on local waterways. Boat traffic during high water conditions can cause damage to shorelines and to shoreline property with vessel wakes.

With rain, warmer temperatures and melting snow, banks and shorelines adjacent to water bodies can be extremely slippery and unstable. Residents and visitors should exercise caution while around waterbodies and maintain close supervision of children and pets.

MNRF also advises extreme caution when using forest access roads for outdoor activities as they may become seasonally inundated with water, are prone to washouts, and may become impassible due to localized flooding.

Residents that have been affected by high water and flow conditions in the past should take necessary action to protect/secure any vulnerable property in proximity to rivers and lakes and closely monitor developing conditions and regularly check for updated messages.

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

TECHNICAL INFORMATION

Description of Weather System

Over the next week temperatures are anticipated to move above seasonal norms, with clear skies and evening temperatures remaining above freezing. Up to 6mm of rainfall is in the 7-day forecast.

Description of Current Conditions

Water levels and river flows within the French and Lower Pickerel Rivers have increased over the past few days in response to the large, slow-moving low-pressure system that deposited 50-60mm of rain across the watershed.

River flows are anticipated to remain high or increase over the next several weeks.

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
- Environment Canada bulletins: www.weather.gc.ca
- A close watch on local conditions and weather forecasts from Environment Canada is recommended.

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<http://ontario.ca/mnrf>
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