

**Flood Warning**  
**Parry Sound District**

**NEWS**

Wednesday, April 24, 2019  
16:30

The Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry – Parry Sound District is advising area residents that a Flood Warning remains in effect in the District, which includes the District Municipality of Muskoka, the Territorial District of Parry Sound and a north-west portion of the County of Haliburton, until Wednesday, May 01, 2019.

Water levels and flows in local lakes and river will remain high following significant snow melt and rainfall that moved across the area last week.

Residents and those visiting the area are advised to be aware of current watershed conditions. Higher than normal water levels and flow conditions, typical of this time of year, exist throughout the area and residents are reminded to keep a close watch on weather conditions, regularly check for updated messages and exercise caution near fast-moving rivers and streams.

It is expected that lower-lying portions of known flood-prone roads along river courses will be impacted to various degrees as lake/river levels remain high over the weekend and into next week.

Banks and shorelines adjacent to water bodies are extremely slippery and unstable. Residents and visitors should exercise caution while around water bodies and maintain close supervision of children and pets.

Residents that may be affected by high water conditions should take necessary action to protect/secure any vulnerable property in proximity to rivers and lakes and closely monitor developing conditions.

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

## **TECHNICAL INFORMATION**

### **Description of Weather System**

After the results of the most recent rain event dropping between 60-70mm of rain from April 17<sup>th</sup> - 20<sup>th</sup>, river flows are still rising in some parts of the watershed but have also stabilized and are starting to trend down in some locations. The rate of rise in lake levels have increased in most locations across the District. Lake levels will continue to rise while this recent water continues to make its way through the river systems. Once water moves its way through the watershed, lake levels and river flows will begin to peak, and trend down provided there is no additional precipitation in the forecast.

The current weather forecast calls for daytime highs over the next week to range from 6°C to 17°C, and night time lows to range from -3°C to 5°C, depending on the weather service. Precipitation over the next 7 days has minimal amounts in the forecast, with 2-6mm of rain/snow mix on Sunday.

### **Description of Current Conditions**

Current lake levels and river flows will remain high over the next week as the water works its way through the watershed. Flows and water levels are anticipated to rise in some parts of the watershed including Lake Muskoka.

Snow surveys were conducted today April 24<sup>th</sup> and no snow was recorded. Although no snow was recorded at District survey sites, there is still some snow present on the landscape in low lying conifer areas and north facing slopes within the Muskoka and Parry Sound regions as well as within Algonquin Park. Snow conditions in Algonquin Provincial Park, which is located in the top of the watershed are recording 57mm of snow water equivalence at their survey locations.

## DEFINITIONS

- **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
- **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.
- **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](http://www.ontario.ca/flooding)
- Environment Canada bulletins: [www.weather.gc.ca](http://www.weather.gc.ca)
- A close watch on local conditions and weather forecasts from Environment Canada is recommended.

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[ontario.ca/mnrf](http://ontario.ca/mnrf)  
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