

**Watershed Conditions Statement - Water Safety
MNRF Parry Sound District
Muskoka River Watershed
Magnetawan River Watershed**

NEWS

Wednesday, August 23, 2017

10:00 am

The Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry (MNRF) – Parry Sound District is advising area residents that a Watershed Conditions Statement - Water Safety is in effect for the District, which includes the District Municipality of Muskoka, the Territorial District of Parry Sound and a north-west portion in the County of Haliburton.

High water levels and flow conditions are expected throughout the area following precipitation events that moved through the district.

Residents within the Parry Sound-Muskoka area should keep a close watch on conditions, regularly check for updated messages and exercise caution around water bodies as flows and levels within rivers and streams remain high.

MNRF also advises extreme caution when using forest access roads for outdoor activities as many may be seasonally inundated with water, prone to washouts or impassible due to current water levels.

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

TECHNICAL INFORMATION**Description of Weather System**

This message is being sent based on information received from MNRF - Surface Water Monitoring Centre, MNRF - Aviation Forest Fire and Emergency Management Services and Environment Canada.

Over the next 7 days there is approximately only 5mm of precipitation forecasted. This drying trend should allow the watershed to begin to return to more seasonal levels over the next week.

Description of Current Conditions

Current water levels and flows are higher than normal for this time of year, due to higher than normal precipitation amounts.

Recent, widespread and heavy rainfall received across the region resulted in higher than normal flows.

Close attention should be paid to local flood conditions reports from conservation authorities and municipalities, and as always, a close watch on meteorological conditions, including thunderstorm alerts, is recommended.

Expiry Date:

This message will expire on Wednesday, August 30 2017, 01:00 PM

Terminology: Notification Levels

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.

Contact Information

For more information please contact:

Parry Sound District MNRF Water Management Department
705-646-5531

A close watch on local conditions and weather forecasts from Environment Canada is recommended. Environment Canada bulletins can be found at <http://weather.gc.ca/>

The Surface Water Monitoring Centre public webpage can be found here: <http://www.ontario.ca/flooding>