



A News Release
from the
**Cataraqui Region
Conservation Authority**

March 8, 2018

**FLOOD OUTLOOK CANCELLED – CRCA WATERSHED CONDITIONS STATEMENT –
WATER SAFETY REMAINS IN EFFECT**

KINGSTON ON – The Cataraqui Region Conservation Authority (CRCA) has cancelled the Flood Outlook today – a Water Safety Statement remains in effect.

Water levels and flows have peaked and are now declining following a February melt and rain event. However, above average water levels and flows remain in many areas.

The weather forecast for the next few days calls for temperatures near the freezing mark, generally with highs above zero degrees Celsius and lows below zero. The snow pack was reduced considerably during the warm days in February and there is minimal rainfall in the current forecast. Based on current conditions and forecasts, flooding is generally not a concern.

Weaker ice conditions in the Cataraqui Region remain. CRCA staff is urging residents to stay away from fast-flowing watercourses, dams, outflow channels, to exercise caution around lakes and creeks, and stay off the ice. Creek banks and lake shorelines may be slippery, increasing the chance of falling in.

CRCA does not measure ice thickness for advising the public about ice conditions for recreational activities. Ice conditions can vary considerably from one waterbody to the next and within a single waterbody.

CRCA staff will continue to monitor conditions and forecasts, and will update statements as needed. This Watershed Conditions Statement will remain in effect until Thursday, March 22, 2018.

Newsrooms please note: A watershed conditions statement is **NOT** a flood warning. Its purpose is to raise public awareness about a change or potential change in watershed conditions. See below for watershed conditions terminology:

Watershed Conditions Statement: general notice of weather conditions that could pose a risk to personal safety or which have the potential to lead to flooding. There are two variations of these:

- Watershed Conditions Statement – Water Safety: High flows, unsafe banks, melting ice or other factors could be dangerous for recreational users such as anglers, canoeists, hikers, children, pets, etc. Flooding is not expected.
- Watershed Conditions Statement – Flood Outlook: Early notice of the potential for flooding based on weather forecasts calling for heavy rain, snow melt, high wind or other conditions that could lead to high runoff, cause ice jams, lakeshore flooding or erosion.

Flood Watch: Flooding is possible in specific watercourse or municipalities. Municipalities, emergency services and individual landowners in flood-prone areas should prepare.

Flood Warning: Flooding is imminent or already occurring in specific watercourses or municipalities. Municipalities and individuals should take action to deal with flood conditions. This may include road closures and evacuations.

Media contact for more information:



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