

NEWS RELEASE

A News Release from the Cataraqi Region Conservation Authority

August 9, 2017

HIGH WATER LEVELS PERSIST ON INLAND LAKES

KINGSTON ON – Water levels are still high on inland lakes and streams within the Gananoque and Cataraqi River Watersheds, but conditions are slowly starting to improve.

Today, the Cataraqi Region Conservation Authority reports that there are only two lakes within these watersheds that remain on a Flood Watch status - **Charleston Lake and Buck Lake**. All other inland lakes are now part of a 'watershed conditions statement – flood outlook', which is a lower level on the warning status.

This status will remain in effect until August 16, 2017. However, if any significant rainfall is to occur in that time frame, the water levels throughout the system will likely increase and can push lake and stream levels back up into Flood Watch or Flood Warning status.

Water managers continue to conduct operations to minimize the effects and pass flows down through the system.

The CRCA is urging residents to exercise caution outdoors around lakes and streams, and to stay away from deep, fast flowing watercourses, as well as any dams and outflow channels.

CRCA staff will continue to monitor conditions and forecasts, and will update statements as needed. The Flood Warning will remain in effect until August 16, 2017.

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.

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.

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