



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

June 15, 2017

**FLOOD WARNING EXTENDED FOR LAKE ONTARIO & ST. LAWRENCE RIVER**

**KINGSTON ON** – The Cataraqui Region Conservation Authority (CRCA) has extended the Flood Warning today for Lake Ontario and the St. Lawrence River as water levels remain at record highs.

The International Lake Ontario – St. Lawrence River Board reports that the average water level for Lake Ontario was 75.81 metres (m) as of June 13, 2017. This is 7 cm lower than the peak level of 75.88 that was recorded on May 29. The average lake-wide water level has declined over the past few days at a rate of approximately 1 cm per day. This gradual decline is expected to continue in the coming days and weeks. However, Lake Ontario remains above the highest water levels recorded at any time since 1918.

The Board is continuing operations and has increased outflow volumes to minimize flooding and erosion impacts when possible. The current outflow rate (10,400 m<sup>3</sup>/s) is the highest Lake Ontario outflow that has ever been released on a sustained basis.

The water level measured today at Kingston is currently 75.7 m, which is 0.3 m below the Lake Ontario 100-year flood elevation of 76.0 m. The current level of the St. Lawrence River measured at Brockville is 75.4 m. This is 0.4 m below the 100-year level of 75.8 metres in that area along the River.

The CRCA is urging residents to take care along the shoreline and on the water as levels drop over the coming weeks. Unsafe/unstable banks may exist due to recent erosion, high water and wave action has deposited debris along shorelines and beaches, and floating debris could cause hazardous conditions for boaters.

Residents on Lake Ontario should continue to pay close attention to forecasts for approaching storms with high winds from the southeast, south or southwest, and note that the above mentioned 100-year flood elevations do not include wave uprush (increased water levels onto the shoreline resulting from high waves). Flooding and erosion damage from high waves is possible during periods of strong winds.

For up-to-date Lake Ontario and St. Lawrence River water levels in your area visit the following Fisheries and Oceans Canada links:

<http://tides-marees.gc.ca/eng/Station/Month?type=1&sid=13988&tz=EST&pres=0&date=2017%2F05%2F31>

(Kingston) – 613-544-9264 for real time water levels

<http://tides-marees.gc.ca/eng/Station/Month?type=1&sid=14400&tz=EST&pres=0&date=2017%2F05%2F31>

(Brockville) – 613-345-0095 for real time water levels

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For up-to-date wind and wave forecasts visit the following links to marine forecasts:

[http://weather.gc.ca/marine/forecast\\_e.html?mapID=11&siteID=08203](http://weather.gc.ca/marine/forecast_e.html?mapID=11&siteID=08203) (Eastern Lake Ontario)

[http://weather.gc.ca/marine/forecast\\_e.html?mapID=11&siteID=07200](http://weather.gc.ca/marine/forecast_e.html?mapID=11&siteID=07200) (Kingston to Cornwall)

Property owners are also reminded to turn off electricity to buildings or structures in flood prone or low lying areas and to move gasoline and other chemicals to higher ground. Any work along shorelines (e.g. placement of fill, armour stone, etc.) will require a permit from the CRCA. Call our office or visit our website ([www.crca.ca](http://www.crca.ca)) for further information.

For further information on Lake Ontario visit [www.ontario.ca/flooding](http://www.ontario.ca/flooding)



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Email: [info@crca.ca](mailto:info@crca.ca) Website: [www.crca.ca](http://www.crca.ca)

For up to date flooding information, please visit the CRCA's flood forecasting and information page at [www.crca.ca/flood](http://www.crca.ca/flood).

CRCA staff will continue to monitor conditions, forecasts, and update statements as needed. This Flood Warning will remain in effect until Friday June 30, 2017.

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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.

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