



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

April 18, 2017

CRCA UPDATES FLOOD WATCH STATEMENT

Kingston – The Cataraqui Region Conservation Authority (CRCA) has updated its Flood Watch Statement today.

Lake levels across the CRCA continued to fall over the weekend. The levels remain high, but are getting much closer to seasonal norms.

There is rain in the forecast for later this week, which is expected to prolong the high lake levels. If the rainfall is heavy, it may cause some lakes to rise again.

Widespread flooding is **NOT** expected based on current conditions. Watershed Managers will continue to monitor conditions and forecasts, and update statements as needed. The removal of items stored in the floodplains of area watercourses and lakes is recommended.

There are still some specific locations where the water levels are exceptionally high, they include:

- Sydenham Lake
- Opinicon Lake
- Loughborough Lake – high spring level
- Cranberry Lake – high spring level
- Charleston Lake – high spring level

A reminder to everyone that stream and river banks are slippery, water currents are strong, and the water itself remains dangerously cold. The CRCA urges residents to exercise extra caution outdoors around lakes and streams, and to stay off thinning ice cover and away from the cold, deep, fast flowing watercourses, as well as any dams. The dangers of drowning and hypothermia are heightened at this time of year because of the unpredictability of water flows, ice thickness and near-freezing temperatures.

This Flood Watch Statement will remain in effect until Friday April 21, 2017.

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.



CATARAQUI REGION CONSERVATION AUTHORITY
1641 Perth Road, P.O. Box 160 Glenburnie, ON K0H 1S0
Phone: 613-546-4228 Toll-free: 1-877-956-CRCA (2722)
Email: info@crca.ca Website: www.crca.ca

Media contact for more information:

Sean Watt, Water Resources Engineer

Shawn Fairbank, Watershed Engineering Technologist

Toll-free (613 area code)

swatt@crca.ca

(613) 546-4228 ext. 284

1-877-956-CRCA (2722)