



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

February 19, 2014

CRCA issues a Watershed Conditions Statement – Flood Outlook

Kingston – The Cataraqui Region Conservation Authority (CRCA) has issued a Watershed Conditions Statement – Flood Outlook today.

A significant amount of precipitation and warmer temperatures are expected, particularly Thursday night and Friday morning. Thunderstorms are also possible as two weather systems merge and intensify, which may generate locally higher rainfall amounts. While the main concern will be localized flooding at blocked storm drains, catch basins, and culverts, the combined runoff from precipitation and snow melt will likely increase creek depths and flow rates as-well.

The CRCA wants to remind residents to stay off of creek ice and away from fast flowing watercourses.

Municipalities and residents are reminded that increasing temperatures and creek levels over the next few days may initiate some ice break-up on area creeks. Ice jamming is possible as ice chunks accumulate at restrictions along the creek.

Valid until: February 26, 2014

-30-

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:

Sean Watt, Water Resources Engineer	(613) 546-4228 ext. 241
Shawn Fairbank, Watershed Engineering Technologist	(613) 546-4228 ext. 284
Toll-free (613 area code)	1-877-956-CRCA (2722)



CATARAQUI REGION CONSERVATION AUTHORITY

1641 Perth Road • P.O. Box 160 • Glenburnie, ON • K0H 1S0
Telephone: (613) 546-4228 Fax: (613) 547-6474
E-mail: info@crca.ca Website: www.crc.ca