



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

February 26, 2014

**CRCA issues a Watershed Conditions Statement
Flood Outlook - Update**

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

Creek levels and flows have risen as a result of last week's rainfall and snow melt. Many creeks have now started to fall back to normal levels. In some locations the increased flow and warm temperatures has created ice jams, causing some reaches of area creeks to remain higher than normal. The cold temperatures forecast for the next few days may allow these ice jams to persist until warmer weather arrives to help dislodge them.

Residents are reminded to stay off of creek ice and away from fast flowing watercourses.

Valid until: March 5, 2014

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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.

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