



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

June 26, 2013

CRCA issues a Watershed Conditions Statement – Flood Outlook

Kingston – The Cataraqui Region Conservation Authority (CRCA) is issuing a Watershed Conditions Statement – Flood Outlook on June 26, 2013. The Watershed Conditions Statement will remain in effect through the week.

Forecasted heavy precipitation for the next several days coupled with already high water levels in creeks and lakes could result in some flooding in low-lying areas and along lakeshores.

The forecast from the Ministry of Natural Resources over the next two days is 100 mm of precipitation. Rain showers are expected to continue for the rest of the week.

Flows in creeks and lake levels are already much higher than average for the month of June. The soils are also very saturated, which is causing them not to absorb much water.

If the forecast holds, we can expect streams and lake levels to rise significantly. Along with flooding, these conditions have the potential to cause increased erosion along shorelines. In urban areas, the rain could result in street flooding, as catch basins and storm sewers may not be able to drain water fast enough.

The CRCA wants to remind residents to stay away from fast flowing watercourses at this time.

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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 watercourses 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.

For more information call:

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