



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

April 7, 2014

### **CRCA Issues a Flood Watch**

**Kingston** – The Cataraqui Region Conservation Authority (CRCA) has issued a Flood Watch today.

Rain this past Friday evening, combined with melting snow from the warming spring temperatures, has caused area streams to rise to normal or slightly above normal spring levels over the weekend. However, there is still snow on the ground throughout the watershed, and the current forecast is for continued warm temperatures and 25 – 35 mm of rain on Monday evening into Tuesday morning.

This will cause area creeks to rise higher than normal spring levels. Low lying areas that don't flood on a regular (annual) basis are expected to flood as a result of this event.

- Smaller urban creeks will peak within hours of the rainfall but stay within normal spring levels (Monday night to Tuesday morning).
- Larger creeks are expected to peak between 24 and 48 hours after the rain event (Wednesday to Thursday).

Many area lakes are already at close to summer levels, and it is expected that they will continue to rise with the coming rain and snow melt.

CRCA staff continue to recommend that residents stay away from cold, deep, fast flowing creeks and the thinning ice cover on lakes. In addition, removal of items stored in the floodplains of area watercourses is also recommended.

CRCA continues to monitor conditions, and will update the Flood Message as needed.

Valid until: April 11, 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.



#### **CATARAQUI REGION CONSERVATION AUTHORITY**

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- 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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