

Flood Watch

Bracebridge Minden Parry Sound District

Muskoka River Watershed

Saturday, April 13, 2024
1:00pm

The Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry – Bracebridge Minden Parry Sound District is advising area residents that a **Flood Watch** is in effect for the **Muskoka River Watershed** until Friday, April 19, 2024.

This message will affect residents within the MNRF Bracebridge Minden Parry Sound District for portions of the District of Parry Sound, District of Muskoka, and Township of Algonquin Highlands.

Runoff to local lakes and rivers has increased significantly with recent rainfall. It may be possible that lake water levels and river flows in certain areas could reach flood levels with more rainfall expected in the coming week.

Lower-lying portions of known flood-prone areas may be impacted to varying degrees as lake and river water levels rise in response to recent precipitation. Residents and visitors should exercise caution while around waterbodies and maintain close supervision of children and pets.

MNRF also advises extreme caution when using forest access roads for outdoor activities as they may become seasonally inundated with water, are prone to washouts and may become impassible due to localized flooding.

Residents that have been affected by high water and flow conditions in the past should continue take necessary action to protect and secure any vulnerable property in proximity to rivers and lakes and closely monitor developing conditions and regularly check for updated messages.

The ministry is closely monitoring the weather and developing watershed conditions. Further updates will be issued as appropriate.

TECHNICAL INFORMATION

Description of Weather System

The weather forecast is calling for daytime highs of 6°C to 15°C, and overnight lows between 0°C and 7°C with another 25-35mm of rain over the next 7 days.

Description of Current Conditions

Lake water levels are rising from recent precipitation and runoff. River flows and lake levels are expected to continue to rise with additional inputs later this week. Flooding is possible within the Muskoka River Watershed if forecasted rainfall materializes.

DEFINITIONS

- **WATERSHED CONDITIONS STATEMENT – WATER SAFETY:** indicates that high flows, melting ice or other factors could be dangerous for such users as boaters, anglers, and swimmers but flooding is not expected.
- **WATERSHED CONDITIONS STATEMENT – FLOOD OUTLOOK:** gives early notice of the potential for flooding based on weather forecasts calling for heavy rain, snow melt, high winds, or other conditions.
- **FLOOD WATCH:** potential for flooding exists within specific watercourses and municipalities.
- **FLOOD WARNING:** flooding is imminent or occurring within specific watercourses and municipalities.

LEARN MORE

- Surface Water Monitoring Centre public webpage: www.ontario.ca/page/surface-water-monitoring-centre
- Environment Canada bulletins: www.weather.gc.ca
- A close watch on local conditions and weather forecasts from Environment Canada is recommended.