

Flood Warning

Flood Watch

Watershed Conditions Statement - Flood Outlook

Bracebridge-Minden-Parry Sound District

Wednesday, May 06, 2026
1:30pm

The Ministry of Natural Resources – Bracebridge-Minden-Parry Sound District is advising area residents and visitors that:

- Flood Warning is in effect for the French River and Pickerel River
- Flood Watch is in effect for the Severn River, including Sparrow Lake
- Watershed Conditions Statement - Flood Outlook is in effect for the Gull River, Muskoka River and Magnetawan River watersheds.

These messages will remain in effect until Wednesday, May 13, 2026 at 11:59pm

This message applies to portions of the MNR Bracebridge–Minden–Parry Sound District, including portions of the District of Parry Sound, District of Muskoka, and County of Haliburton including the French, Pickerel, Severn, Gull, Magnetawan, and Muskoka River watersheds.

Residents and visitors should anticipate lake and river water levels to continue to decrease in many areas, with some locations beginning to stabilize.

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

Lower-lying portions of known flood-prone areas may be impacted to varying degrees.

MNR also advises extreme caution when using forest access roads for outdoor activities, as many are seasonally inundated with water and prone to washouts. These roads may be impassable.

Slippery stream banks and fast-flowing, cold water will create hazardous conditions around all water bodies. Residents are reminded to keep a close watch on weather conditions, regularly check for updated messages, exercise caution near fast-moving rivers and streams and maintain close supervision of children and pets.

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 7-day weather forecast is predicting daytime highs of 7°C to 13°C and overnight lows between -1°C and 4°C with up to 8 mm of rainfall.

Some areas remain vulnerable to additional impacts should significant rainfall occur.

Description of Current Conditions

It is anticipated that water levels on the French River and portions of the Pickereel River will remain elevated this week.

Several areas are still experiencing elevated water levels and flows. In some locations, levels are comparable to those observed in 2019 and may result in localized infrastructure impacts and flooding.

Water levels and river flows in many locations are continuing to trend toward more normal conditions, though some areas remain elevated.

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 and Climate Change Canada is recommended.

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ontario.ca/mnr
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