

Watershed Conditions Statement - Water Safety

Bracebridge-Minden-Parry Sound District

Friday, June 12, 2026
1:00pm

The Ministry of Natural Resources – Bracebridge-Minden-Parry Sound (BMPS) District is advising area residents and visitors that a Watershed Conditions Statement - Water Safety bulletin is in effect for the Muskoka River Watershed and the Magnetawan River Watershed in the BMPS district until Friday June 19, 2026, at 11:59pm

This message applies district-wide across the MNR Bracebridge–Minden–Parry Sound District, including portions of the District of Parry Sound, District of Muskoka, and County of Haliburton.

Conditions of note include elevated water levels and flows on:

- Lake Muskoka
- Lake Rosseau
- Moon River including the Bala Reach
- Lake Cecebe
- Ahmic Lake and portions of the watershed downstream of Ahmic Lake

Residents, visitors, and boaters are advised to use extreme caution near dams, as recent high-water levels may have affected safety booms, signage, barriers, and other safety features.

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 may have been damaged by seasonal conditions, including washouts. These roads may be impassable.

Slippery stream banks and fast-flowing water could create hazardous conditions around all water bodies. Residents and visitors 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

Recent rainfall across the watershed has been significant. Between June 5–10, total precipitation ranged from approximately 85–117 mm, compared to a typical monthly average of about 86 mm. With soils already saturated prior to this event, much of the rainfall converted quickly to runoff, resulting in rapid increases in river flows and lake levels.

The weather forecast indicates the potential for up to 70 mm of additional rainfall over the next 7 days. While this rain is expected to occur in multiple events rather than a single storm, any additional precipitation on already saturated ground will likely contribute to continued elevated water levels and flows across the watershed.

Description of Current Conditions

Water levels and river flows in many locations are currently elevated and are expected to remain high over the next week

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.