

**Watershed Conditions Statement - Flood Outlook
Bancroft District – Flood Watch for the York & Burnt River
Watersheds**

NEWS

**Monday April 3, 2017
2:00pm**

The Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry - Bancroft District is advising area residents that a Watershed Conditions Statement - Flood Outlook is in effect for all of Bancroft District. A **Flood Watch** is in effect for the York and Burnt River Watersheds including the Irondale River, due to limited storage capacity and the responsive nature of these river systems.

Residents of the Bancroft District should keep a close watch on conditions, regularly check for updated messages and exercise caution near fast-moving rivers and streams. Residents who have a historic susceptibility to flooding should take appropriate precautions to protect their property, such as ensuring sump pumps are functioning and securing items that may float away as water levels rise.

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

TECHNICAL INFORMATION***Description of Weather System***

This message is being sent on the basis of information received from MNRF - Surface Water Monitoring Centre, MNRF - Aviation Forest Fire and Emergency Management Services, Ontario Power Generation and Environment Canada.

Over the next 5 days, mild temperatures are expected with significant precipitation. The 5 day rainfall totals are anticipated to be in the 50-60mm range. The majority of that rain will fall Monday night into Tuesday, with an additional 20-30mm is forecast for Thursday. Temperatures range from 2-11 degrees Celsius during the day and remain above freezing overnight. The forecast rain combined with mild temperatures will significantly increase water levels in local lakes, rivers, and streams.

Description of Current Conditions

With the recent snow melt reservoirs within the district are steadily rising. This trend is expected to continue. Water flows in larger rivers are elevated from past rain events and melt. The MNRF and the Trent-Severn Waterway (TSW) continue to closely monitor local lakes and rivers.

Much of Bancroft District remains blanketed by a snow pack, especially in the upper reaches of the watershed. Snow water equivalent is close to average for this time of year. Continued snowmelt is expected over the coming week with milder temperatures and forecast precipitation.

The MNRF is in regular communication with partner agencies and water control structure operators, including Conservation Authorities, Ontario Power Generation (OPG), Bracebridge Generation and the TSW.

Expiry Date:

This message will expire on 04/07/2017 12:00 AM

Terminology: Notification Levels

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

Contact Information

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A close watch on local conditions and weather forecasts from Environment Canada is recommended. Environment Canada bulletins can be found at <http://weather.gc.ca/>

The Surface Water Monitoring Centre public webpage can be found here:
www.ontario.ca/flooding