

**Watershed Conditions Statements – Bancroft District:**

Flood Warning for the York River and Madawaska River watersheds

Flood Watch for the Burnt and Black River Watersheds,  
Flood Outlook for the remainder of Bancroft District

**NEWS**

Friday April 14, 2017  
5:00pm

The Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry - Bancroft District is advising area residents that a **Flood Warning** is in effect for the **York River and Madawaska River Watersheds**.

A Flood Watch remains in effect for the **Burnt River Watershed** including the **Irondale River**, and the **Black River Watershed** due to limited storage capacity and the responsive nature of these river systems.

A **Watershed Conditions Statement – Flood Outlook** remains in effect for the rest of Bancroft District.

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 advises extreme caution when using forest access roads for outdoor activities. Many are seasonally inundated with water, prone to washouts, and may be impassable due to current water levels. The public should avoid crossing any submerged roads as there may be a risk to traveler safety. Barricades have been placed in locations where known washouts or dangerous driving conditions have been observed.

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.

A low pressure system will move through the area on Saturday bringing rainfall expected in the 10-20mm range. The system should exit the region on Sunday. Daytime temperatures are expected to be in the mid to high teens °C through Sunday.

## **Description of Current Conditions**

While recent temperatures and precipitation have been causing the snow to disappear in parts of Bancroft district, a substantial snow pack with average, to above average water content remains across the northern half of the District, encompassing many headwater areas. With the forecast warmer temperatures and precipitation, continued and accelerated snowmelt is expected.

The York River and Madawaska River watersheds are already saturated and the additional rain and snowmelt will cause water levels and flows in the York and Madawaska Rivers to either rise or remain elevated. Flooding is expected in low-lying areas adjacent to the York and Madawaska Rivers.

With the recent rain and snow melt, reservoirs across the remainder of the district are elevated. Smaller streams and creeks will respond quickly to the additional runoff. Larger water bodies, including the reservoir lakes, will take longer to react. Additional water accumulation in areas adjacent to watercourses, road ditches and areas with poor drainage may occur.

The MNRF and the Trent-Severn Waterway (TSW) continue to closely monitor local lakes and rivers.

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 04/18/2017 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](http://www.ontario.ca/flooding)