

Flood Warning
Pembroke District

NEWS

Thursday, May 09, 2019
3:00pm

The Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry (MNRF) – Pembroke District is advising area residents that the Flood Warning in effect for Renfrew County has been extended until Tuesday, May 14, 2019.

The County of Renfrew along with several municipalities have declared states of emergency due to flooding and water levels and flows in large lakes and rivers remains high.

Residents in Renfrew County should keep a close watch on conditions, regularly check for updated messages and exercise caution near fast-moving rivers and streams. Motorists in the area should remain vigilant for flooding over roadways and the potential for washed out culverts. Anyone requiring sandbags or assistance should contact their local municipality.

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.

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 based on information received from MNRF - Surface Water Monitoring Centre, MNRF - Aviation Forest Fire and Emergency Management Services and Environment Canada.

The County is forecast to receive a significant amount of precipitation from rain and thunderstorms over the next two days which could affect already high water levels.

Description of Current Conditions

Most systems in Renfrew County are experiencing high water levels and flows and flooding continues to occur in some low-lying areas. Most rivers and lakes have now crested and are starting to decline, however water levels around the County are expected to remain high for the foreseeable future.

Water levels on the Ottawa River are still increasing as water is being released from the northern reservoirs and snow in the north is melting. Residents along the Ottawa River should remain vigilant as forecast precipitation could further increase water levels contributing to more flooding.

Many areas around the County continue to experience flooding and some roads and structures remain closed due to flooding and wash-outs.

Extreme caution around lakes, rivers and submerged roads in addition to keeping a close watch on local forecasts and conditions is recommended for the safety of all residents.

DEFINITIONS

- **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
- **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.
- **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/flooding
- Environment Canada bulletins: www.weather.gc.ca
- A close watch on local conditions and weather forecasts from Environment Canada is recommended.

OTTAWA RIVER REGULATING COMMITTEE (ORRC)

OTTAWA RIVER

FORECAST PEAK FLOOD LEVELS

2019-05-08 17:00

(Next update 2019-05-09 17:00)



	HISTORIC PEAK (YEAR) (m)***	CURRENT LEVEL		FORECAST PEAK LEVEL		CHANGE (cm) *
		DATE-TIME	LEVEL (m) **	DATE	LEVEL (m) **	
MATTAWA	155.78 (1960)	2019-05-08 15:00	155.17	2019-05-10	155.70	53
PEMBROKE	113.67 (1960)	2019-05-08 14:00	113.53	2019-05-10	113.75	22
LAC COULONGE	109.10 (2019)	2019-05-08 14:45	108.90	2019-05-11	109.30	40
LAC CHATS	76.31 (2019)	2019-05-08 14:00	76.00	2019-05-12	76.20	20
LAC DESCHENES/BRITANNIA	60.70 (2019)	2019-05-08 15:00	60.43	2019-05-12	60.70	27
GATINEAU/HULL MARINA	45.20 (2017)	2019-05-08 14:45	44.63	2019-05-13	44.90	27
THURSO	43.69 (2017)	2019-05-08 14:45	43.16	2019-05-13	43.50	34
GRENVILLE/HAWKESBURY	43.18 (1951)	2019-05-08 14:45	42.36	2019-05-13	42.60	24
MANIWAKI	167.47 (1974)	2019-05-08 14:45	165.37	2019-05-11	165.70	33

* CHANGE is the difference in centimeters between the FORECAST PEAK LEVEL and the CURRENT LEVEL.

(negative values denote the amount that levels have decreased from the peak)

** All levels are in reference to mean sea level.

*** Historic peak water level.

ESTIMATED

Location has reached its peak level.

Warning:

- Water level forecasts are subject to a high degree of uncertainty and should be used as an approximate reference only.

- The flow rate and actual levels can change rapidly without warning, particularly during the freshet period. We advise those using bodies of water to exercise caution and to follow safety rules at all times.

- The FORECAST PEAK LEVEL does not account for local variations due to wind and wave effects.

River Conditions Forecast

2019-05-08 17:00

Significant rainfall of 20 to 35 mm over much of the watershed is expected to begin on Thursday. Most reservoirs in the Abitibi-Timiskaming region are now filled and excess spring runoff from this region cannot be stored by reservoirs and will continue to flow to downstream locations. Between Mattawa and Lac Coulonge water levels are expected to continue rising, at times rapidly, with potentially historic peak levels along this upper river section expected on Friday through Saturday depending on location. Along the Ottawa River from Chats Lake down to Lac Deschenes, levels are expected to rise due to increased flow from the Abitibi-Timiskaming region combined with forecast precipitation. The levels along this river reach may return to the initial peaks observed last week. In downstream locations from Pointe Gatineau down to the Grenville/Hawkesbury area, levels are expected to increase without exceeding the initial peaks observed last week, depending on the amount of precipitation received.

<http://www.ottawariver.ca/forecast.php>