

## **Watershed Conditions Statement - Water Safety**

### **Peterborough Bancroft District**

Thursday, March 13, 2025  
3:00 pm

The Ministry of Natural Resources (MNR) – **Bancroft Work Centre** is advising area residents that a **Watershed Conditions Statement - Water Safety** is in effect until Friday, March 21, 2025. This message will affect residents within the Bancroft area.

The snowpack has been slowly melting as a result of the warm weather. Melting will accelerate due to the warm temperatures and rainfall forecasted for March 14<sup>th</sup> to March 16<sup>th</sup>.

Residents should note that water levels on lakes and rivers will begin to rise following this event.

The Ministry 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 MNR's Surface Water Monitoring Centre and Environment Canada.

As of March 13<sup>th</sup> the Bancroft area is forecasted to receive 10-20mm of rainfall over the next 4 days.

Daytime highs for the next 7 days range from 2°C to 13°C, with evening lows ranging from -5°C to 7°C. Overnight lows of around 4°C and 7°C on Friday and Saturday will accelerate the melt of the existing snowpack. Below freezing temperatures on Sunday and Monday night will slow then slow the melt.

##### **Description of Current Conditions**

The MNR continues to closely monitor local lakes and rivers as this event progresses. The MNR is in regular communication with partner agencies and water control structure operators, including Conservation Authorities, Ontario Power Generation (OPG), and Bracebridge Generation.

The water equivalence in the snowpack for the Peterborough-Bancroft district on March 1<sup>st</sup> ranged from 100% to 130% of normal for this time of year. More recent snow station results indicate that the snowpack has remained largely unchanged to date.

Lakes and Rivers in the area are still at seasonal levels. Levels will rise as a result of increased runoff over the coming days. Runoff will then slow as temperatures cool to more seasonal values.

A close watch on local forecasts and conditions is recommended.

## 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/flooding](http://www.ontario.ca/flooding)
- Environment Canada bulletins: [www.weather.gc.ca](http://www.weather.gc.ca)
- A close watch on local conditions and weather forecasts from Environment Canada is recommended.

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Nathan Hack, IRM Technical Specialist, Bancroft Work Centre, 613-202-1620

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