



Water Conditions Statement

Water Safety/ Flood Outlook

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Issued at: May 5, 2017 - 11:30 am

Issued by: John Bittorf

TO: Watershed Municipalities and Watershed Media

MESSAGE:

Water Safety

Environment Canada has issued Rain Fall Warnings for much of Southern Ontario including Grey Sauble watersheds. Our region is on the northern edge of this system and rainfall Thursday night and into Friday morning has been variable with some of our southern watersheds receiving up to 20 mm and our northern watersheds seeing traces of rain. The forecast is for an additional 50-75 mm over the next 2 days.

Water levels in our rivers and stream have been receding after the rain events earlier this week but have not fully recovered and are still elevated. With the ground saturated, water levels are anticipated to rise again with the additional rain. However, no unusual riverine flooding is anticipated at this time. Flows should remain below our average spring runoff conditions. Localized flooding may occur in low lying areas that typically flood.

Flows conditions can change based on the timing, duration and intensity of the rain. Grey Sauble staff will continue to monitor weather and river conditions and will provide updates as needed. Grey Sauble staff would like to remind everyone that banks are slippery & unstable and that water is cold & fast flowing.

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Update: will be in effect until 4:30 p.m., Monday May 8, 2017

Contact: John Bittorf, Water Resources Coordinator at 519 376-3076 ext 228

Grey Sauble Conservation issues THREE types of messages:

1. Watershed Conditions

Statement - Water Safety/Flood Outlook

These are general notices of weather conditions that could pose a risk to personal safety of which have the potential to lead to flooding.

- i) Water Safety: High flows, unsafe banks, melting ice, etc.
- ii) Flood Outlook: Early notice of the potential for flooding based on weather forecasts calling for heavy rain, etc.

2. Flood Watch

Flooding is possible in specific watercourses or municipalities. Municipalities, emergency services and individual landowners in flood-prone areas should prepare.

3. Flood Warning

This is the most serious type of message: flooding is imminent or already occurring in specific watercourses or municipalities.