

## **Watershed Conditions Statement - Flood Outlook**

### **Chapleau Wawa District**

Thursday, April 27, 2023  
1:30 p.m.

The Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry – Chapleau Wawa District, is advising area residents that an updated Flood Watch has been issued for the district until Monday, May 01, 2023.

Residents in the Chapleau Wawa District area should keep a close watch on conditions and exercise caution around rivers and streams. Please alert and monitor any children under your care to possible dangers and supervise their activities.

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

#### **TECHNICAL INFORMATION**

##### **Description of Weather System**

A big, complex, and slow-moving low-pressure system is forecast to enter Ontario late Friday- early Saturday and stay over the province until Monday, producing substantial amounts of rain all three days.

Southern Ontario and most of the Northeastern region will see clear and dry weather today, Thursday, Apr 27<sup>th</sup>.

While the dry weather will continue for the eastern part of southern and northeastern Ontario tomorrow, Friday, Apr 28<sup>th</sup>, light showers, 5 to 10 mm are forecast for areas west of Lake Simcoe and north of the shorelines of Lakes Huron and Superior.

The low-pressure system will move into the province over the north end of Lake Huron, yielding 15-20 mm of rain on Saturday, April 29<sup>th</sup>, and up to 25-30 mm on both-Sunday and Monday, April 30<sup>th</sup>, and May 1<sup>st</sup>. The total accumulation rainfall for the event can reach 55-60 mm throughout the areas covered by this Flood Watch.

The daytime temperature will reach 12-15°C for the south and around 10°C for the north.

## Description of Current Conditions

The rivers, lakes, and reservoirs through the central (Parry Sound, Muskoka, Algonquin Park, Pembroke Districts) and Northeastern Ontario are elevated but are stable or slowly declining at this time.

The snowpack and its remnants that still exist northward of Algonquin Park continue melting. Significant snow water equivalent remains within the watersheds to the north of the height of the land. Under the warmer temperatures expected for the next five days, it will continue melting, adding to the runoff from the rain.

The predicted rainfall and snowmelt, where the snowpack still exists, will produce significant runoff. As a result, water levels in watercourses, lakes, and reservoirs throughout the Southern, Northeastern, and eastern portions of Northwestern Ontario are expected to rise significantly. Flooding in historically known flood-prone areas can occur. The existing flood problems can intensify. Local water levels, flows and flooding situation should be monitored closely.

The public should be advised of the danger around the fast-flowing and cold rivers and streams and unstable ice cover. In addition, milder temperatures will weaken and cause the breakup of the remaining ice cover where it exists, causing localized water level increases and flooding should ice jamming occur.

## 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.
- **SHORELINE CONDITIONS STATEMENT – WATER SAFETY:** indicates that **along the Great Lakes shorelines high water**, melting ice or other factors could be dangerous but flooding is not expected.
- **SHORELINE CONDITIONS STATEMENT – FLOOD OUTLOOK:** gives early notice of the potential for flooding **along the Great Lakes shorelines** based on weather and lake conditions, and water safety information.
- **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/page/surface-water-monitoring-centre](http://www.ontario.ca/page/surface-water-monitoring-centre)
- 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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