

Flood Watch
Pembroke District
Ottawa River

Thursday, May 15, 2025
4:00 pm

The Ministry of Natural Resources – Pembroke District is advising area residents that a Flood Watch will remain in effect for areas along the **Ottawa River** until Wednesday, May 21, 2025 (if not updated/replaced before that date).

While recent rainfall combined with warmer temperatures has melted most of the remaining snow locally, snowpack remains through the northern portion of the Ottawa river watershed. Continued snowmelt across the northern portions of the Ottawa River Basin combined with recent precipitation has caused water levels on the Ottawa River to rise as the water works its way through the system.

Residents along the main stem of the Ottawa River and upstream of the confluence of any tributaries should consider the following:

Minor flooding thresholds have been exceeded along the main stem of the Ottawa River and are starting to show signs of decline. Major flooding thresholds are not anticipated to be exceeded at this time however a close watch on the weather forecast is recommended as conditions can change rapidly.

Residents that have been affected by high water and flow conditions in the past should take necessary precautions to protect/secure any vulnerable property in proximity to rivers and closely monitor developing conditions and regularly check for updated messages. Residents and visitors should exercise caution while around waterbodies and maintain close supervision of children and pets.

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

TECHNICAL INFORMATION

Description of Weather System

Weather forecast for the next 5 days suggest a total accumulation of 25-40mm. Some localized areas may see more precipitation if thunderstorms develop. Temperatures are expected to remain seasonal with highs in the high teens.

Description of Current Conditions

The MNR continues to closely monitor local lakes, rivers and weather conditions.

Ottawa River levels and flows are expected to continue to decline. Flooding in low-lying areas remains possible, but those areas currently experiencing high water levels or flooding can expect conditions to continue or start to improve. A close watch of local weather forecasts, special weather statements, and warnings 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.
- **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

- Environment Canada bulletins: www.weather.gc.ca

- A close watch on local conditions and weather forecasts from Environment Canada is recommended.

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