



LOWER TRENT
CONSERVATION

WATER LEVEL BULLETIN

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Flood Warning



Flood Warning Update for Trent River & Lake Ontario/Bay of Quinte

A **Flood Warning** is issued when **flooding is beginning/occurring** or when more **serious flooding is possible**. A Flood Warning requires action that may include the activation of the municipal flood emergency plan, warning residents or businesses in specific affected areas, and in some cases evacuation.

DATE: May 15, 2017

TIME: 11:00 AM

ISSUED TO: Municipalities (Alnwick/Haldimand, Brighton, Cramahe, Quinte West, Trent Hills), Northumberland & Hastings Counties, Ministry of Natural Resources & Forestry, Trent-Severn Waterway, Ontario Power Generation, Innergex, Media, Health Units, Emergency Response Agencies

MESSAGE #: LTC – 17 – 16

Above normal rain through April and early May combined with saturated ground conditions is continuing to cause high water level concerns across the Lower Trent Conservation watershed region (an area stretching from Quinte West to Grafton, and from Lake Ontario to Rice Lake).

Flood Warning Update – Trent River

The Flood Warning issued on May 5, 2017 for the **Trent River from Hastings to Trenton** remains in effect. There continues to be minor flooding occurring on some access roads, backyards and basements in low lying areas along the river.

Water levels and flows in the upstream areas of the Trent River watershed started a slow decline over the weekend. This includes the Burnt and Gull Rivers as well as the Kawartha Lakes. In the lower section of the river system, water levels on Rice Lake (at Harwood) experienced some slight increases on Saturday and Sunday.

Residents living in low lying, floodplain areas along Rice Lake and the Trent River within the municipalities of Alnwick/Haldimand, Trent Hills and Quinte West should anticipate water levels to begin to stabilize in the next several days. With no significant precipitation predicted in the long range forecast, it is anticipated that water levels will start a gradual decline through the later part of this week.

Flood Warning Update – Lake Ontario/Bay of Quinte

The Flood Warning issued on May 8, 2017 for Lake Ontario and Bay of Quinte shoreline from Grafton to Quinte West remains in effect.

Lake Ontario water levels have surpassed record high levels. The water level measured at Cobourg is currently at 75.77 masl (metres above sea level) which is 7 cm above the Lake Ontario 100 year flood elevation of 75.70 masl. The current level has surpassed previous high water levels reached in 1973, 1974 and 1993.

Residents living in low lying, flood prone shoreline areas should anticipate further water level increases through May, and possibly into June. Additionally, surge related flooding during periods of strong onshore winds and erosion damages from high waves is possible. Bluffs and other shorelines areas may become unstable due to erosion and should be avoided. Residents should pay close attention to weather forecasts for approaching storm systems with high southeast, south or southwest winds.

Property owners are also reminded that any work along the shoreline (e.g., placement of fill, armour stone, etc.) will require a permit from Lower Trent Conservation and should call the office or visit the website (www.ltc.on.ca) for more information.

Residents living in flooded areas should take actions to protect themselves and their property. Homeowners affected by flooding should be aware that electrical, well and septic systems may be compromised. The public is urged to pay close attention to Health Unit guidelines for ensuring safe drinking water.

Local municipalities are the first to respond to, and assist with, flood emergencies. Residents requiring assistance should contact their local municipality. If you experience a flood emergency, call 911.

If safe to do so, the public is encouraged to share photos of water concerns in their area via Facebook (@lower trent conservation) or Twitter (@LowerTrent).

The public is advised to exercise extreme caution around all waterways. Strong currents pose a safety hazard to anyone. Areas around water control structures should be avoided at all times.

Lower Trent Conservation will be monitoring water levels and weather forecasts as part of its flood forecasting and warning program. Daily water level information is available on the Lower Trent Conservation website at <http://www.ltc.on.ca/flood/ffw/cc/>. If you have concerns about water levels, please contact Lower Trent Conservation at (613) 394-4829.

An update to this Flood Warning for the Trent River and Lake Ontario/Bay of Quinte will be provided on Friday, May 19, 2017. Additional bulletins will be issued earlier if conditions are expected to change significantly from this outlook.

For more information contact:

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