



# NEWS RELEASE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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## Low Water LEVEL 1 Condition UPDATE

Several rainfall events during the first two weeks of June has not been enough to lift the Low Water Level 1 Condition for the Lower Trent Conservation watershed region, an area stretching from Grafton to Quinte West, and from Lake Ontario to Rice Lake.

Lower Trent Conservation declared a Level 1 Low Water Condition on June 3, 2016. Precipitation for the past 3 months has been 72 per cent of normal. A 3-month average precipitation below 80 percent of normal is the trigger for Level 1 Low Water.

As part of the declaration of a Level 1 Low Water Condition, local municipalities, residents and businesses are asked to voluntarily reduce their water usage by 10 percent. This includes lawn watering and vehicle/driveway washing.

“With only 33.2 millimetres recorded during the first half of June, we are a long way from the 125 millimetres needed to lift the Level 1 Low Water status,” says Janet Noyes, Manager – Watershed Science & Services. “Water flows on local streams are also well below normal for this time of year as a result of these dry conditions.”

The Ontario Low Water Response program was developed by the Province to help coordinate and support local response in the event of a prolonged period of low stream flows or precipitation. There are three levels of Low Water Conditions with Level 1 being the least severe and Level 3 being the most severe.

Conservation Authority staff will continue to monitor conditions and report new information as it becomes available. An update on the Low Water status will be provided on July 4, 2016, or earlier if conditions warrant.

To learn more about Ontario’s Low Water Response program visit our website at [www.ltc.on.ca](http://www.ltc.on.ca).

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