



**St. Clair Region
Conservation
Authority**
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Flood Advisory

Bulletin Number: 2009 Flood Event 1, Bulletin 2
Issued at: February 10, 2009 at 16:15
Issued by: Brian McDougall, Director of Watershed Services

Highlights:

- Snow melt continues to impact water levels
- Ice beginning to break up on east branch of Sydenham River
- Forecast of continued warm temperatures and rain

Current:

Rain forecast for the overnight and morning hours failed to produce much more than trace amounts, but water levels on the Sydenham River and its tributaries continue to climb as a result of above normal temperatures and snow melt. Localized flooding is occurring along some watercourses while others have near bank full conditions.

Forecast:

Temperatures are forecast to remain well above normal through Thursday. Precipitation is forecast to begin overnight or early Wednesday and continue until the evening or overnight hours into Thursday. Total accumulations are forecast to be between 15–35 mm (0.6–1.4 inches) through Thursday when a cold front will bring a return to normal temperatures. The remaining snow will continue to melt with above freezing temperatures and rain. A lack of frost in many areas continues to allow infiltration and should reduce runoff.

The next few days:

Water levels are expected to continue to climb this evening with the rate of rise slowing in the overnight hours. The anticipated rain is expected to impact water levels early tomorrow as water levels continue to rise and localized flooding continues to inundate low lying floodplain areas. Ice conditions continue to deteriorate quickly with open water appearing in areas near bridges and along the shoreline in many areas. Ice jamming continues to be a possibility with increased flows as the ice breaks up. Municipal emergency response staff and road superintendents should review emergency response plans and monitor local conditions closely. No road closures have been reported to date, however municipal officials are closely monitoring the conditions in flood prone areas.

Residents are reminded to avoid watercourses and flooded areas due to slippery banks and cold and swift moving water. Parents in particular are urged to keep their children away from floodplain areas.

The St. Clair Region Conservation Authority will monitor the flood condition of the watersheds in the region and will provide warnings to municipal officials and media in the event conditions develop which could result in the potential of flooding.

Update: As required.
Contact: Brian McDougall at 519-617-1925
Confirmation: Confirmation of receipt of this message **is not** required

Page 1 of 1

Types of Flood Bulletins

- *Flood Monitoring/Safety Bulletins* are dual purpose in nature, with Monitoring Bulletins used to report on general watershed conditions to flood coordinators, and Safety Bulletins to remind the general public of general river safety issues.
- *Flood Advisory Bulletins* are issued when the potential for flooding exists in specific municipalities.
- *Flood Warning Bulletins* are issued after a forecast has been made and apply to specific flood damage centres where serious flooding appears inevitable.