



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

Bulletin Number: 2009 Flood Event 1, Bulletin 4
Issued at: February 11, 2009 at 16:00
Issued by: Brian McDougall, Director of Watershed Services

Highlights:

- Water levels continue to slowly rise
- River ice decaying rapidly
- 8-11 mm of rain today with more on the way

Current:

Water levels on the Sydenham River and its tributaries continue to climb, as a result of rain (8 mm at Brigden and Strathroy and 11 mm at Wallaceburg) and snow melt. Localized flooding is expanding along the main branches of the Sydenham River and its major tributaries. Pretty Road north of McCallum Line and Stanley Line east of Kimball Road are closed due to flooding. Others roads impacted to date are those which are not maintained through the winter and were closed late last year in Enniskillen (Black Ash & Fairweather Roads) and St. Clair Townships (Waterworks Road).

Forecast:

Temperatures are forecast to return to near normal by Friday. Drizzle is expected late this afternoon and into early evening before two additional waves of rain move across the region. Additional accumulations, are forecast to be between 15–25 mm (0.6–1 inches) through Thursday morning. The remaining snow will continue to melt with above freezing temperatures and rain.

The next few days:

Water levels are expected to continue to climb through the overnight hours with rain and continued snowmelt as contributing factors. Localized flooding will continue to expand in low lying floodplain areas, mostly in agricultural and parkland areas. Ice conditions continue to deteriorate quickly with open water appearing along the shoreline in all 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. Additional road closures are possible and 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

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.