



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

Bulletin Number: 2009 Flood Event 1, Bulletin 5
Issued at: February 12, 2009 at 7:30
Issued by: Brian McDougall, Director of Watershed Services

Highlights:

- Rainfall over the last 24 hours between 30 and 50 mm
- Water levels climbing quickly
- River ice decaying rapidly
- McKeough Dam is in operation

Current:

Water levels on the Sydenham River and its tributaries continue to climb, as a result of rain (46 mm at Brigden and over 40 mm at Wallaceburg) combined with continuing snow melt. Localized flooding is expanding rapidly along the main branches of the Sydenham River and its major tributaries. At 7:30 am the criteria for operation of the McKeough Dam was reached and the gates have been closed.

Confirmed road closures:

St. Clair: Waterworks Road north of Courtright Line

Stanley Line east of Kimball Road

Pretty Road north of McCallum Line

Enniskillen: Durham Creek Line at Black Ash Line

Fairweather Road Between Rokeby Line and Shiloh Line

Fairweather Road between Oil Springs Line and Aberfeldy Line

Additional roads are expected to be closed this morning.

Forecast:

Temperatures are forecast to return to near normal by Friday. The remaining snow will continue to melt with above freezing temperatures. Minor precipitation is forecast for the next few days but it is anticipated that it will fall as snow.

The next few days:

Water levels have responded quickly to the significant rainfall overnight and flooding is expanding along the main branches of the Sydenham River and its major tributaries. 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.

