



St. Clair Region
Conservation
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Flood Advisory update

Bulletin Number: 2011 Flood Event 2, Bulletin 7
Issued at: March 8, 2011 at 2:00 pm
Issued by: Girish Sankar, Water Resources Engineering Technician

Highlights:

- Rainfall forecast for Wednesday
- Falling water levels may be impacted
- Ice conditions deteriorating rapidly

Current:

Water levels across the St. Clair region are continuing to fall. Water levels in upstream areas have returned to near normal levels while levels on the lower portions of the Sydenham River remain well above normal. At Wallaceburg and Wilkesport, water levels are stable to falling slowly. Localized flooding remains in select locations on the lower portions of the Sydenham River. Ice conditions are declining on the lower reaches of Sydenham River with estimated thickness ranging from 4 to 6 inches. In St. Clair Township, Waterworks Road, north of Courtright Line and Pretty Road South of Stanley Line are closed due to flooding.

Forecast:

Temperatures are expected to climb above normal for the rest of the week with day time highs reaching +4^oC on Wednesday and Thursday. Weather forecasts are predicting the region will receive between 15 and 20 mm (0.6 and 0.8 inches) of rain expected to begin Wednesday morning. This rain along with increased temperatures will continue to melt the remaining snow pack in the watershed and continue to deteriorate ice conditions.

The next few days:

With the forecast rainfall, water levels are expected to climb in all areas. Localized flooding will expand into low lying floodplain areas, mostly in agricultural and parkland areas. Ice conditions are expected to deteriorate quickly with open water appearing along the shoreline in all areas. Increased flows and warmer temperatures have a potential to break up ice and cause ice jamming to occur at traditional ice jam locations in the lower reaches of Sydenham river. Municipal officials and road superintendents should monitor local conditions.

Municipal emergency response staff and road superintendents should monitor local conditions closely.

Residents are reminded to avoid watercourses and flooded areas due to slippery banks, cold and swift moving water and deteriorating ice. 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.

<i>Update:</i>	As required.
<i>Contact:</i>	Girish Sankar at 519-617-1935
<i>Confirmation:</i>	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.