

News Release

For immediate release
April 4, 2025



Flood Watch Updated for Inland Lakes & Streams

Kingston – Cataraqui Conservation has updated the current Flood Watch today due to rainfall forecast for Saturday April 5.

Weather Situation:

The Cataraqui Region saw 16 – 32 mm of precipitation fall, mostly as rain, over the period of April 2 – 3. An additional 10 – 25 mm of rain is forecast for April 5, followed by what is expected to be relatively dry conditions for several days. Some additional rain is possible starting April 10.

Conditions:

Streamflows have responded to the recent rainfall, but not dramatically. Urban creeks peaked (stabilized) soon after the rainfall ended and are declining quickly. Larger creeks are peaking, and some have already begun to fall. Streamflows on many gauged creeks are in the range of about 2.5 times normal, similar to the level following the March 28 – 31 precipitation events. This still leaves some room for the next rainfall event.

Water levels on managed lakes have risen from the recent rainfall. Water managers have been aggressively managing outflows to prepare, as much as possible, for additional rainfall. Some managed lakes remain well above normal.

The ground has limited ability to absorb precipitation due to higher saturation following recent rainfall. This will continue to lead to enhanced runoff to streams and lakes during rainfall events.

Risks:

The forecasted rain is expected to cause streamflows to rise, possibly to levels observed following the March 15 & 16 snowmelt and rainfall event. If the higher rainfall amounts materialize, higher than normal peak spring flows and levels remain a possibility, as well as localized impacts such as minor roadway inundation and the filling of floodplain areas.

Lake levels are also expected to rise. Water Managers have increased discharge (to maximum capacity from some water control structures) and continue to monitor levels closely to limit, as much as possible, negative impacts.

Widespread flooding is NOT expected. However, localized flooding of low-lying areas is occurring and could persist for several days.

Specific locations that may experience or are already experiencing water levels well above normal seasonal averages include*:



Cataraqui Watershed

- Loughborough Lake (PP)
- Buck Lake (PP)
- Canoe Lake (PP)
- Kingsford Lake (PP)
- Devil Lake (PP)
- Newboro Lake (PC)
- Opinicon Lake (PC)
- Sand Lake (PC)
- Cranberry Lake (PC)
- Dog Lake (PC)
- Colonel By Lake (PC)

Gananoque River System

- Upper Beverley Lake & Delta (MNR)
- Lower Beverley Lake (MNR)
- Singleton Lake (MNR)
- Charleston Lake (PP)
- Gananoque Lake (PP)
- Gananoque River – the reach between Marble Rock Dam downstream to the 401 causeway (includes Marble Rock Road) – (PP)

*Connected lakes and watercourses, associated with the above list, may also be affected.

Requests for additional information associated with the above listed managed lakes can be sent to the following water management groups:

1. Parks Canada (PC)
E-mail: rideau@pc.gc.ca
More information is available here: <https://parks.canada.ca/lhn-nhs/on/rideau/info/infonet>
2. Ministry of Natural Resources (MNR)
E-mail: kemptville-kingston.mnrf@ontario.ca
3. Portage Power (PP)
E-mail: info@portagepower.com

Residents in flood-prone or low-lying areas, historically susceptible to flooding, are advised to remove items stored in the floodplains of area watercourses and lakes.

If you witness flooding and/or require assistance, your first point of contact is the local municipality.

Cataraqui Conservation is urging caution around all dams (inflow and outflow channels) and fast-flowing watercourses. Respect the hazards in these areas by obeying all warning signs, and keep away from booms, buoys and barriers. Stay well back from the water's edge above and below dams and hydroelectric stations. Creek banks and lake shorelines may be slippery, increasing the chance of falling in.



Staff will continue to monitor conditions and forecasts, and update statements as needed. This Flood Watch will remain in effect until (or updated before) Wednesday, April 16, 2025, at 11:59 PM.

For up-to-date flooding information, please visit our flood forecasting and information page at <https://cataraquiconservation.ca/pages/flood>.

Affected residents are advised that sand and bags are available at the following municipal locations (separate municipalities):

Residents in the Township of South Frontenac

2490 Keeley Rd, Sydenham – call first to schedule pick up (613-376-3027)

Residents in the Township of Rideau Lakes

Municipal storage dome at 1410 County Road 8 in Philippsville - call first (613-349-2314)

Residents in the Township of Leeds and the Thousand Islands

- Main Township yard located at 1233 Prince Street in Lansdowne
- North yard located at 312 Lyndhurst Rd in Lyndhurst

At both locations, clean sand stored in two yellow covered containers. Bags, a shovel, and a filling cone available for public use.

Residents in the Township of Athens

44 Elgin Street North - call first to schedule pick up (613-924-2044) **sand only (no bags)**

Residents in the City of Kingston

Creekford Road Public Works site. Residents should submit a request through Contact Us <https://www.cityofkingston.ca/city-hall/contact-us>, or call 613-546-0000, and arrangements can be made to have someone meet them on site

Residents in the Town of Gananoque

Public Works Yard Waste Depot located at the end of James A. Brennan Road - call first (613-382-4422)

Residents in the Township of Augusta

Call 613-925-4231 x 201 if you have questions about sandbag supplies

Residents in the City of Brockville

Contact the City if you have questions about sandbag supplies

See below for watershed conditions terminology:

Normal: No flood conditions exist

Watershed Conditions Statement – Water Safety: High flows, unsafe banks, melting ice or other factors that could be dangerous for recreational users such as anglers, canoeists, hikers, children, pets, etc. Flooding is not expected.



Watershed Conditions Statement – Flood Outlook: Early notice of the potential for flooding based on weather forecasts calling for heavy rain, snow melt, high wind or other conditions that could lead to high runoff, cause ice jams, lakeshore flooding or erosion.

Flood Watch: Flooding is possible in specific watercourse or municipalities. Municipalities, emergency services and individual landowners in flood-prone areas should prepare.

Flood Warning: Flooding is imminent or already occurring in specific watercourses or municipalities. Municipalities and individuals should take action to deal with flood conditions. This may include road closures and evacuations.

Media contact for more information:

Krista Fazackerley, Communications & Education Supervisor (613) 546-4228 ext. 243
kfazackerley@crca.ca

Municipalities contact for more information:

Shawn Fairbank, Technologist, Water Resources (613) 546-4228 ext. 284
sfairbank@crca.ca

Mallory Wright, Technologist, Water Resources (613) 546-4228 ext. 234
mwright@crca.ca

Steve Knapton, Coordinator, Operations Planning (613) 546-4228 ext. 223
sknapton@crca.ca

Toll-free (613 area code) 1-877-956-CRCA (2722)