

FLOOD WATCH

Wednesday, January 23, 2019 at 10:22



Flood Watch

Issued to:

SCHOOL BOARDS, MUNICIPALITIES, LOCAL CONSERVATION AUTHORITY, LOCAL POLICE, EMERGENCY SERVICES AND MEDIA

Weather Conditions:

Toronto and Region Conservation advises that Environment Canada is forecasting up to 15 mm of rain by the end of Wednesday in the Greater Toronto Area. Early snowfall this morning has transitioned to freezing rain and will further transition to rain continuing for the rest of the afternoon and evening. Temperatures are expected to stay above freezing this afternoon and evening which is expected to cause snowmelt. Most rivers and streams currently have partial to full ice-cover, therefore the rainfall and snowmelt today may potentially lead to ice-jams and localized flooding near culverts, bridge piers, and meanders. Ice-jam conditions are difficult to predict, thus there is some uncertainty regarding the potential for ice-jams and associated flooding.

Issues:

Due to the total rainfall expected today for the majority of the GTA along with snowmelt caused by increasing temperatures this afternoon, and due to the potential for ice breakup, all rivers within the GTA may experience higher flows and water levels, resulting in potential flooding and hazardous conditions. Ponding may occur in low-lying areas. The combination of slippery and unstable banks, cold water temperature, and the potential for ice jamming could create hazardous conditions close to any river, stream or other water bodies. All shorelines, rivers and streams within the GTA should be considered hazardous.

Actions:

Please exercise caution around all bodies of water. Please alert any children under your care of these dangers and supervise their activities. Please keep children and pets away from the slippery and unstable banks. Recall that ice conditions on watercourses within TRCA's jurisdiction can change rapidly. Persons should stay well away from watercourses, even if they appear to be frozen over. We are continuing to monitor conditions. This Water Safety Watershed Conditions Statement will be in effect through Thursday, January 24, 2019. TRCA will continue to monitor the weather and watershed conditions and provide an update should the weather system and watershed conditions escalate to more severe conditions. To report a flooding incident from a watercourse, please leave a message on TRCA's floodline listed below. If you are in danger, call 911 immediately.

Flood Duty Officer

Christina Bright
416-661-6514

Chief Flood Duty Officer

Amy Winterhalt

Previous Flood Messages issued for the same storm event:

No previous flood message issued for the same storm event.



Receive Flood Notifications via Twitter:
twitter.com/trca_flood

www.trca.ca/flood



A Water Safety Watershed Conditions Statement may be issued when there are high flows, unsafe banks, melting ice or other factors could be dangerous for recreational users such as anglers, canoeists, hikers, children, pets, etc. Flooding is not expected.