



Essex Region
Conservation
Authority



WATERSHED CONDITIONS STATEMENT

FLOOD OUTLOOK

The Essex Region Conservation Authority advises that, due to moderating temperatures that will be above freezing for the next several days, the existing snowpack will be melting and creating run-off. The snowpack present has a high water equivalency and will result in significant volumes of run-off. Forecasts currently advise that temperatures will rise and fall above freezing during the next several days so the rate of thawing should be slowed during the daylight hours.

Most watercourses, ditches and streams are iced in with significant snow pack being present within these waterways. Run-off from the melting snow will be held back from these waterways due to frozen surface inlets, snow drifts and cast snow from snow removal. There is a high probability for significant volumes of standing water to affect the entire region within low lying areas and areas where drainage inlets are still frozen. Standing water can be encountered anywhere within the region and depths can be significant.

If possible, property owners should consider inspecting their private properties for catch basin and surface drain locations and make these areas free of debris and stockpiled snow/ice. Existing ice surfaces may be impacted on from run-off from warming temperatures, making these areas potentially unsafe. Parents should take precaution to keep children and pets away from areas of standing water, waterways, ditches and streams.

Issued by:

Tim Byrne

Director, Watershed Management Services

(519) 776-5209, ext. 350 (if no answer dial ext. 346)

Date: March 9 2015

Time: 11:44AM

This advisory is in effect until: Monday March 16, 2015

Municipalities and Other Agencies:

Upon receipt, hand directly to the Flood Coordinator or Emergency Planner for your Municipality or Agency.

Media:

Upon receipt, hand directly to your newsroom.

Types of Flood Bulletins

Watershed Conditions - Safety Bulletins	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 – 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 Bulletins	Flooding is possible in specific watercourses or municipalities. Municipalities, emergency services and individual landowners in flood-prone areas should prepare.
Flood Warning Bulletins	Flooding is imminent or already occurring in specific watercourses or municipalities.