



High Water Safety Bulletin

T: 519-235-2610 Fax: 519-235-1963
 www.abca.on.ca

Number: S.2011.2.1

Issued at: Friday, February 25, 2011 at 1:00 p.m.

Issued by: Alec M Scott, P.Eng.
 Water & Planning Manager

To: ABCA Municipal Flood Coordinators

Message: Warm temperatures and rain possible for early next week

According to current forecasts, Sunday will see another intensifying Colorado low pressure system track east-northeastward towards the Great Lakes region, bringing cloudy conditions with snow flurries and/or rain showers to southern Ontario in the afternoon. Rainfall amounts could reach up to 30mm for Sunday into Monday. Temperatures will remain above the freezing mark, (0 to 5°C) throughout the day and into Monday.

The forecast precipitation and mild temperatures over the next several days will cause water levels in streams and rivers to rise. Depending on actual conditions through the weekend, there is potential for minor or nuisance flooding early next week. As rainfall amounts and temperatures are confirmed, the ABCA will provide updated forecasts of the expected water levels and potential for flooding or ice jamming. This update will be provided by Monday morning.

Municipal staff should monitor known problem areas on secondary roads for ponding water where roadside snowbanks block usual drainage systems.

Residents are reminded that due to warmer temperatures and accompanying rainfall, ice conditions on local streams and rivers, including ponds and reservoirs, should be considered unsafe. In addition, please use caution near all watercourses as waters may be fast moving and higher than normal. Slippery and unstable streambanks and extremely cold water temperatures will create additional hazards.

The Ausable Bayfield Conservation Authority will be monitoring watershed conditions and will provide an update of conditions by Monday morning.

Update: As required.

Contact: Alec M Scott, Water & Planning Manager at 519-235-2610 or by pager at **519-931-0078**

Confirmation of receipt of this message: **Confirmation is not required** Mode of Confirmation: by Fax or Phone

Information Copies provided to: Board of Directors, Adjacent CA's, Media, MNR-SWMC

- End of Message -

Types of Flood Messages

- *High Water Safety Bulletin* Issued to alert municipalities that the potential for flooding is being assessed and remind the public that rivers, streams and ponds may be unsafe for recreational or other activity.

- *Flood Advisory* Issued when the potential for flooding exists in specific municipalities.

- *Flood Warning* Issued after a flood forecast has been made which indicates that significant flooding is imminent or occurring in specific flood damage centres.