

Bulletin Number: 2020 Flood Event 1, Bulletin 1

Issued at: January 10, 2020 at 10:30

Issued by: Girish Sankar, Director of Water Resources

Highlights:

- Upwards of 90mm of rain forecasted today through Sunday morning
- Winds from southerly and westerly directions
- Potential Road Closures
- Fast flowing water and slippery stream banks

Significant amounts of rainfall are anticipated starting today and continuing through into early Sunday morning, with heavy rainfall beginning shortly after midnight on Saturday. Forecasts are predicting 5-15mm today followed by an additional 50-75mm Saturday. Rainfall amounts may vary depending on location.

This amount of rainfall is anticipated to elevate water levels into natural floodplain areas, parks and farm fields. Soils are expected to be saturated from the rain and could contribute to ponding, increased runoff into watercourses, and possible increased erosion and seepage issues. High amounts of rainfall in a short period of time can lead to increased runoff and flash flooding, particularly in urban areas. With little to no river-ice cover, ice jams will not be a factor with this event.

Winds from south and southwesterly directions have the potential to create a backwater effect, further elevating water levels in Wallaceburg. Strong winds are expected Sunday morning, with gusts up to 90km/h. Residents along the Lake St. Clair shoreline may experience wind-driven high water levels and wave action, with a potential for erosion.

The following roads may be impacted due to high water levels. These roads include:

- Stanley Line east of Kimball Road
- Pretty Road north of McCallum Line
- Waterworks Road between Moore Line and Courtright Line

River banks are expected to be slippery, with possible minor erosion. Residents are reminded to avoid watercourses and flooded areas due to slippery banks and cold, swift moving water. Children and pets should be kept away from the water.

The Conservation Authority continues to monitor watershed conditions and will issue advisories to municipalities and media should flood issues arise.

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

This message will remain in effect until Sunday, January 12, 2020, unless otherwise updated.

Update: As required.

Contact: Girish Sankar, Director of Water Resources
at 519-245-3710 ext. 247 after hours at 519-617-1935

Confirmation: Confirmation of receipt of this message **IS** required by municipal staff

Types of Flood Bulletins

- *Watershed conditions statement - Water safety* are issued when high flows, unsafe banks, melting ice or other factors could be dangerous for recreational users e.g. canoeists, swimmers, anglers, hikers, boaters, etc. but flooding is not expected
- *Watershed conditions statement - Flood Outlooks* are issued when a major storm is pending, snowmelt is imminent, ice jams are possible or when general watershed conditions suggest high runoff potential that could lead to flooding.
- *Flood Watch 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.

