



“Caution - Fast moving water – Warning”

During this time of year the Guelph Eramosa Fire department would like to remind all citizens to use extra caution around lakes, rivers and waterways.

With the large amount of snow we've received this year lakes, rivers and waterways will most certainly swell above normal levels. The rain along with the rapid melting of snow will cause rivers and waterways to rise and flow at unusually fast speeds.

Citizens are asked to stay away from shore lines and keep their animals on leashes when walking in areas of rapidly moving water. Safety is all our responsibility.

For more information please go to the Grand River Conservation Authority's web site:

<http://www.grandriver.ca/> and look under the **“Newsroom”** link in the centre of the page.

As always in the event of an emergency call 911.

Trained professionals with the proper equipment will respond giving you the best chances of survival.

Be safe

The Guelph Eramosa Fire department



Watershed Conditions Statement

High Water Safety

DATE: February 20, 2014

TIME: 11:50 (am)

**TO: All Municipal Flood Co-ordinators
All Local Media
Adjacent CA's, MNR Districts**

FROM: Grand River Conservation Authority

Watershed Conditions Statement: Flood Outlook #1

Warmer weather with some rain or snow is forecast over the weekend and into the beginning of next week. This combination will cause snow melt and an increase in river flows through the weekend. Major flooding is not expected over the weekend, however this is the start of what is expected to be an extended spring melt through April.

The Grand River watershed has an above average snowpack. Snow melt in past weeks has exposed some bare fields in the southern part of the watershed, however woodlots and fence rows still have snow. The north still has full winter conditions and the snow melt is expected to continue through most of April. The current weather system has temperatures forecast to rise to day time highs of about 10C Monday and Tuesday with cooler temperatures later in the week. Night time lows are forecast to drop below zero which will slow down the snow melt process.

Ice conditions along the Grand River are beginning to deteriorate with the increased flows and sunshine. Ice above Lake Erie to Cayuga is generally intact, but deteriorating. The Coast Guard icebreaker has been requested to break ice at the outlet of the river and is expected by early next week. Ice is intact above the Caledonia dam to Newport. Ice conditions above Brantford show mixed sections of open water and intact ice. The upper Grand River and tributaries including the Nith, Conestogo, and Speed are generally ice covered. Some movement of ice is expected as river levels rise with the risk of local ice jams. There is elevated risk of debris and log jams with the ice due to the ice storm damage.

The major reservoirs at Belwood, Conestogo, Guelph, Luther, Woolwich, Laurel, and Shades are at low winter holding levels and have maximum storage available. There is currently minimal inflow to the reservoirs.

Banks adjacent to rivers and creeks are very slippery at this time and when combined with forecast weather conditions, pose a serious hazard. Parents are encouraged to keep their children and pets away from all watercourses and off frozen water bodies which may be weakened as a result of the warming trend.

GRCA staff will be keeping a close eye on the situation and issue updates as required.

- For more information on flows, weather and reservoir conditions see the [River Data](#) section of the GRCA website at www.grandriver.ca
- For more information on the flood warning system see the [Flood Management](#) section of the website.

- Receive GRCA flood messages by e-mail by signing up for the GRCA News Service. Instructions are available in the [Newsroom](#) section.
- Follow GRCA flood messages on Twitter at [grca_flood_msg](#)
- [Download a fact sheet](#) on GRCA flood message terminology

Further information - contact: GRCA Duty Officer
Website: www.grandriver.ca

Phone: (519) 621-2761