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For Immediate Release

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Watershed Conditions Statement – Water Safety

SUDBURY – Conservation Sudbury is maintaining a **Water Safety** statement for the Greater Sudbury watersheds effective 3 PM today. This statement will remain in effect until 10 AM, March 12.

Parts of Northeastern Ontario are forecast to receive 20-35 mm of rain combined with mild temperatures over the next 48 hours. The upper reaches of all large rivers within the Sudbury region still have a light to moderate snowpack that holds more than 50 mm of water content. The warmer temperatures along with rain will accelerate the rate of snowmelt.

Water levels and flows in area watercourses are currently within the normal seasonal range. Flooding is not expected, however, localized ponding on streets and other low-lying areas is possible.

Public safety is the number one priority, especially for children who may be attracted to the edge of creeks or rivers. The cold, fast-flowing water must be avoided. Stream banks will be very slippery and unsafe, and must be avoided. Any open-water areas will continue to widen and these must also be avoided.

Developing conditions must be closely monitored by all residents especially those living in known low-lying, hazard areas where overland flooding could become an issue.

Conservation Sudbury remains in direct contact with the City of Greater Sudbury and all other partners as required. Staff continue to monitor water levels and updates will be provided when needed.

For more information please visit ConservationSudbury.ca

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Conservation Sudbury issues five types of messages, depending on conditions:



Normal

No flood conditions to report.



Watershed Conditions Statement - Water Safety

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 Statement - 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

Flooding is possible in specific watercourses or municipalities. Municipalities, emergency services and individual landowners in flood-prone areas should prepare.



Flood Warning

Flooding is imminent or already occurring in specific watercourses or municipalities