

**Message # 2020-01**

**Issued: 1:30 p.m., Thursday January 9, 2020**

**Subject: FLOOD WATCH issued for the whole of the Otonabee Region Conservation Authority (ORCA) watershed excluding the Kawartha Lakes, Otonabee River and Rice Lake.**

**Issued to:** Municipalities of Selwyn, Douro-Dummer, Asphodel-Norwood, Otonabee-South Monaghan, Cavan Monaghan, City of Kawartha Lakes, City of Peterborough and Trent Hills, as well as ORCA's other partners in flood emergency management.

This **FLOOD WATCH** is issued to alert municipalities, residents and businesses that flood conditions are a possibility along the shores of the Region's lakes, rivers, streams, creeks and wetlands (excluding the Kawartha Lakes, Otonabee River and Rice Lake)

A low-pressure weather system will move across southern Ontario bringing (to the area) above-zero air temperatures and a total of 40 to 60 millimeters of rainfall. The forecasted warm air temperatures and rainfall will begin tomorrow (Friday, January 10<sup>th</sup>) and continue throughout Saturday (January 11<sup>th</sup>). The precipitation will change over to snow on Sunday (January 12<sup>th</sup>). The combination of snowmelt and rainfall over the next 48 hours may produce significant run-off.

Due to the potential amount of run-off from rainfall / snowmelt, combined with frozen ground conditions, there is a possibility of flooding in some of the watershed's low-lying areas. As a minimum, the expected snowmelt / rainfall run-off will result in accumulations and ponding of water on the ground where there is poor drainage, as well as higher than normal water levels and flows in area rivers, streams, creeks and wetlands. Thereby, as a minimum, area municipalities, residents and businesses can expect potentially hazardous conditions such as water on the road in some locations.

With this message, the Otonabee Region Conservation Authority advises area residents to: 1) have a watchful eye for possible flooding; 2) keep away from all waterbodies / watercourses and conveyance structures (e.g., dams, culverts and bridges); and, 3) stay clear of anywhere that water can be seen to be accumulating and ponding.

This **FLOOD WATCH** message will be in effect until **MONDAY, January 13<sup>th</sup>, 2020.**

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