



## FLOOD WATCH

Flood Potential: Moderate

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**TO: LOCAL MEDIA, SCHOOL BOARDS,  
MUNICIPALITIES, & LOCAL CA's.**

**ISSUED: May 4, 2017 8:30AM**

**SUBJECT: FLOOD WATCH (FW\_02\_17)**

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The Ganaraska Region Conservation Authority advises that a second rain storm is set to impact southern Ontario this week. Rain is expected to begin on Thursday night and continue until Saturday as the slow moving system moves through the region bringing 50 to 70mm of rain over the three days.

Local streams are still declining after rainfall early this week that caused higher than normal flows. Ground conditions are currently saturated and will not have capacity to absorb much rainfall as the next system moves in. It is expected that much of the rain will runoff to local streams causing them to run higher and faster than normal. Minor flooding is possible with the amount of rain forecasted, particularly in low lying areas and adjacent to stream channels.

Lake Ontario water levels are very high and a separate Flood Watch has been issued. This is causing the outlets of our streams to experience high water levels as well. With the potential for high flows meeting high lake levels, flood prone areas at stream outlets may be more susceptible to flooding.

Rice Lake had receded back to normal summer levels after the spring runoff passed, however residents should expect levels to gradually increase again due to the heavy rainfall. It may take a couple of weeks to pass the expected large volume of runoff through the watershed of Rice Lake, however at this point the lake is not expected to rise to flood critical levels.

The public and especially children are warned to stay well back from the shorelines of Lake Ontario and the local streams within the GRCA jurisdiction. Fast flowing water and slippery banks will become hazardous and should be avoided.

This Flood Watch for the watersheds draining to Lake Ontario and Rice Lake will be in effect through Sunday, May 7<sup>th</sup>, 2017. The Flood Watch issued for Lake Ontario will remain in effect for some time after this storm until lake levels recede. Conservation Authority staff will continue to monitor conditions, and provide updates as necessary. Should you have any questions or wish to report flooding, please contact the following GRCA staff at 905-885-8173.

Mike Smith  
Flood Operations Officer

Mark Peacock, P.Eng.  
Flood Forecasting and Warning Coordinator

**Note: A Flood Watch is issued as notice that flooding is possible in specific watercourses or municipalities. Municipalities, emergency services and individual landowners in flood-prone areas should prepare.**

Mike Smith BSc.  
Water Resource Technician  
Ganaraska Region Conservation Authority  
Phone: 905-885-8173 x 246  
Fax: 905-885-9824  
Website: [www.grca.on.ca](http://www.grca.on.ca)