

Message: 2015 - 1.1.3
Issued at: 3:00 p.m. Friday March 27, 2015
Issued by: MVCA Flood Forecast Centre
To: **All Municipalities in the MVCA's area of jurisdiction, including the Nine-Mile River watershed, and Media**

Watershed Conditions Statement – Water Safety

The weather forecast continues to be favourable for a slow melt of the snow pack in the Maitland and Nine Mile River watersheds. Over the next several days daytime highs are expected to be just a few degrees above zero and overnight temperatures well below zero.

Surface ice has broken up on most of the smaller tributaries and currently there is a good channel through Goderich.

It should be noted however, that little snow melt has occurred in the woodlots and the water content in the remaining snow pack is high. If temperatures were to rise quickly and/or the area experiences significant rainfall, flooding would be expected.

Residents are reminded to stay away from all watercourses. The extremely cold water, combined with slippery and unstable stream banks has created hazardous conditions near all waterways.

Municipal staff should continue to monitor local problem areas and be prepared for closures of low lying roads.

This message is in effect until 4:00 p.m. on Friday April 3, 2015 unless changing conditions warrant updating it sooner. The MVCA will continue to monitor weather forecasts, rainfall, snow melt and river flow.

Confirmation of receipt of this message: not required

- End of Message -

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Types of Flood Messages:

Watershed Conditions Statement - Water Safety - General watershed conditions are being assessed for high runoff potential that could lead to flooding, and to remind the public of general river safety issues.

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. Municipalities and individuals should take action to deal with flood conditions. This may include road closures and evacuations.