

The Upper Thames River watershed has received between 10 and 25 mm of rain over the past 3 days, and water levels are elevated above normal. More rain is forecast over the upcoming holiday weekend, with forecasts ranging from a total of between 60 mm and 35 mm to be received between tomorrow and the end of the day Monday, dependent upon the source of the forecast.

Expect water levels to remain elevated for the next several days, and potentially to rise over the weekend, particularly if the higher forecasts materialize. If the higher predictions occur, expect levels similar, or higher, to those experienced during the spring freshet in March.

People are warned to stay away from ditches, streams, rivers and ponds as the combination of slippery banks and fast-flowing cold water is very dangerous. Parents in particular are urged to keep children away from floodplain areas.

The UTRCA s flood control reservoirs at Pittock (Thames River in Woodstock) and Wildwood (Trout Creek near St. Marys) have begun their annual cycle of filling, and retain about 70% and 35% flood storage capacity, respectively. Fanshawe Reservoir (North Thames River in London) retains more than 90% of flood storage capacity.

UTRCA staff are monitoring the situation and will provide updates as necessary. Municipal Flood Coordinators should be on standby and prepare to respond to situations as they develop.

View current Thames River flow and meteorological information on-line at www.thamesriver.on.ca - follow the link to Thames River Levels.

Update: Update as conditions warrant.