

Upper Thames River Conservation Authority
Tel.: 519-451-2800
Fax: 519-451-1188

FLOOD ADVISORY

Bulletin Number: 2011.4.A1
Issued at: March 4, 2011 at 3:45 p.m.
Issued by: Mark Helsten, Senior Water Resources Engineer

To: Municipal Flood Coordinators (via email & fax)

Message:

Weather forecasts are predicting the region will receive between 40 and 60 mm of rain beginning today and continuing until late Saturday, when temperatures are expected to drop below zero; any further precipitation falling will be snow. The heaviest precipitation period is forecast to occur late tonight into Saturday morning. This rain, combined with forecast temperatures of 8 deg C for tomorrow, will melt most of the watershed's snowpack, and cause run off into lakes, streams and rivers.

Should the higher rainfall amounts materialize, expect flooding conditions similar to those experienced in the spring of 2009. The river will be out of bank in many areas, beginning Saturday, and continuing Sunday, and into Monday in downstream areas. Flood Coordinators are advised to monitor known problem areas including but not limited to:

- Woodstock: Thames River at Highway 2; Cedar Creek at Southside Park
- Thames Centre: Village of Putnam South of Hwy 401; Reynolds Creek - Golden Pond Trailer Park
- East Zorra -Tavistock: Braemar Trailer Park
- Zorra: Ponderosa Trailer Park
- City of London:
 - o Waubuno Creek - Travelled Road, River Road
 - o North Thames River - Windermere and Adelaide Streets, Gibbons Park (Victoria Avenue), Harris Park including the Nancy Campbell Institute parking area
 - o Dingman Creek at Dingman Drive
 - o Pottersburg Creek at Oxford Street (Veterans Memorial Parkway)
 - o Thames River - Wellington and Front Streets
 - o Mud Creek at Oxford Street (opposite Beaverbrook Avenue)
- University of Western Ontario: Medway parking lot, Tennis Centre
- Middlesex Centre: Our Lady of Lourdes Catholic School; River Road
- Perth South: Prospect Hill Campground
- West Perth: Motherwell area (Trafalgar bridge)
- Stratford: Dolan Drive; Avon Cemetery; Stratford Golf and Country Club
- St. Marys: Thomas Street between Park and Queen Streets; Parkview Drive; St. Marys Golf and Country Club

Expect the main branches of the Thames River (North Thames River, Middle Thames River and Thames River) to rise 2-3 m, depending upon location. Peaks are expected to develop Saturday evening in upstream areas (Mitchell, Stratford, St. Marys, Woodstock) and into early Sunday further downstream (London). Smaller tributaries will rise 1.5 to 2.5 m, with peaks expected Saturday night.

Ice conditions on frozen water bodies are unsafe. People are warned to stay away from ditches, streams, rivers and ponds as the combination of unstable ice, slippery banks and fast-flowing cold water is very dangerous. Parents are urged to keep children away from floodplain areas. Flood control reservoirs are also very hazardous.

Information on river flows and reservoir levels can be found on the UTRCA's website at www.thamesriver.on.ca in the "Thames River Flows" section.