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For Immediate Release

Issued: May 2, 2019

Watershed Conditions Statement – Water Safety

SUDBURY – Conservation Sudbury is issuing a **Water Safety** statement for Greater Sudbury watersheds effective 4:00 p.m. today. This statement will remain in effect until 10:00 a.m., May 9.

The current Environment Canada forecast for the weekend and into early next week indicates warm temperatures nearing 16° C with light precipitation.

Most of the snowpack within the City of Greater Sudbury has melted over the past few weeks, however the upper reaches of the Vermilion River and the Wanapitei River watersheds still have snowpack with significant water content. Current water levels and flows on large rivers are higher than normal and will remain high for some time to come. The forecast warm temperatures will further degrade the remaining snowpack and ice, further increasing levels and flows even in rivers where water levels are receding.

Public safety is the number one priority, especially for children who may be attracted to the edge of creeks or rivers. The cold, fast-flowing water must be avoided. Stream banks will be very slippery and unsafe, and must be avoided. Any open-water areas will continue to widen and these must also be avoided.

Water levels will not decrease rapidly and developing conditions must be closely monitored by all residents especially those living in known low-lying, hazard areas where overland flooding could become an issue.

Conservation Sudbury remains in direct contact with the City of Greater Sudbury and all other partners as required. Conservation Sudbury staff continues with the monitoring of water levels; updates will be provided as required. For more information please visit ConservationSudbury.ca

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For More Information Contact:

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Managing our watersheds today - for tomorrow
Gérons nos bassins hydrographiques aujourd'hui, pour demain

Conservation Sudbury issues five types of messages, depending on conditions:



Normal

No flood conditions to report.



Watershed Conditions Statement - Water Safety

High flows, unsafe banks, melting ice or other factors that could be dangerous for recreational users such as anglers, canoeists, hikers, children, pets, etc. Flooding is not expected.



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