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For Immediate Release

Issued: March 16, 2022

Watershed Conditions Statement – Water Safety

SUDBURY – Conservation Sudbury is issuing a **Water Safety** statement for the Greater Sudbury watersheds effective 3:00 p.m. today. This statement will remain in effect until 2:00 PM, March 22.

The current Environment Canada forecast for the rest of the week and into early next week indicates warm temperatures nearing 10° C with light precipitation. Warmer temperatures will accelerate the rate of snowmelt resulting in sudden rise in water levels and flows. All watersheds within the City of Greater Sudbury still have a significant snowpack that holds anywhere between 100 and 150 mm of water content. Water levels and flows in area watercourses are currently within the seasonal range; however localized ponding on streets and other low lying areas is possible.

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.

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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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