

March 18, 2008

POTENTIAL FOR FLOODING DURING SPRING HIGH WATER PERIOD

The Pembroke District of the Ministry of Natural Resources advises that localized flooding in areas adjacent to the streams and rivers may be occurring in the next few weeks.

This applies to all rivers and streams in Renfrew County including the Ottawa River and all of its tributaries.

Municipalities are advised to monitor their local watercourses closely and to be prepared to respond to flooding emergencies as they occur.

Recent heavy snowfalls have left a considerable volume of snow on the ground.

Based on snow volume and conditions, the current water content of the snow has the potential to create above average flood conditions.

The severity of potential flooding will be determined by how quickly the snow melts and how much rain is associated with that melt.

Streams and rivers are also very dangerous at this time of year. MNR advises all residents to keep their children, pets and themselves away from riverbanks. Shorelines are extremely unsafe.

MNR monitors spring water levels on a provincial basis through the Surface Water Monitoring Centre and provides flood advisories to municipalities. Local municipalities are responsible for flood response, and can request assistance from provincial agencies in flood emergencies.

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Ottawa River Regulation Planning Board Contact Information (for municipalities along the Ottawa River)

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