



Message: 2.3
Issued at: 10:30 a.m. Thursday March 6, 2025
Issued by: Maitland Conservation Flood Forecast Centre
To: ■ All Municipalities in Maitland Conservation's area of jurisdiction, including the Nine Mile River watershed
■ Watershed media

Flood Watch – Ice Jamming

Due to observations of ice jams, Maitland Conservation is issuing a Flood Watch for all municipalities in the Maitland and Nine Mile River watersheds.

While most smaller streams throughout the watershed are ice-free, signs of ice jams have been observed in larger river reaches. Jams have been reported on the Lower Maitland River near Wingham, the South Maitland River near Summerhill and the Nine Mile River in Port Albert. As of early this morning, river levels have either peaked or are nearing peak flows; however, with fast falling temperatures there's risk of blockages from ice jams freezing in place.

Ice jams are unpredictable - they can form, shift, worsen or breakup suddenly. These blockages cause rapid changes in water levels and localized flooding, even in non-traditional areas. While Maitland Conservation will monitor known ice jams, there's risk that unknown or new jams may form elsewhere in the watershed.

Municipal officials are encouraged to check low-lying roads and infrastructure. We remind people that conditions around all watercourses remain hazardous.

Maitland Conservation is monitoring watershed conditions and will provide an update if warranted.

This message is in effect until the afternoon of Friday March 7, 2025.

- End of Message -

Contact:
Jeff Winzenried, Flood Forecasting Supervisor
jwinzenried@mvca.on.ca
519-357-0890

Media Contact:
Jayne Thompson, Communications Coordinator
jthompson@mvca.on.ca
519-335-3557 ext. 226 Cell: 519-357-6670

Types of Flood Messages:

Watershed Conditions Statement - Water Safety - General watershed conditions are being assessed for high runoff potential that could lead to flooding, and to remind the public of general river safety issues.

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. Municipalities and individuals should take action to deal with flood conditions. This may include road closures and evacuations.