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*For Immediate Release*

*Issued: April 23, 2019*

## **Watershed Conditions Statements – Flood Watch and Water Safety**

SUDBURY – Conservation Sudbury is issuing a **Flood Watch** for the Lower Junction Creek (downstream of Kelly Lake), the Onaping River (Dowling area) and the Vermilion River (Dowling, Chelmsford and parts of Walden). For all other watercourses within the City of Greater Sudbury, **Water Safety** messaging is being maintained.

Both statements are effective 2:00 PM today and remain in effect until 10:00 AM on April 30, 2019.

The current Environment Canada forecast for the rest of the week indicates warm temperatures nearing 13°C with light precipitation.

A significant amount of the snowpack within the City of Greater Sudbury has melted over the past week, however the upper reaches of the Vermilion River and the Onaping river watersheds still have snowpack with significant water content. Current water levels and flows on all watercourses in these watersheds are already elevated and will remain high for some time to come.

The neighbourhoods adjacent to Mud, Simon and McCharles Lakes are in the vicinity of the point where Junction Creek flows into the Vermilion River. Similarly the Dowling area is where the Onaping and Vermilion Rivers join. Flows are high in all of these watercourses and a backwater effect often occurs where they meet. High water levels are already being experienced on shoreline properties.

The 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. Residents in the City of Greater Sudbury who may experience problems due to overland runoff or flooding should call 3-1-1.

Public safety is absolutely 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. Open water areas often found at the edges of ice-covered lakes will continue to widen and these must also be avoided.

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

For more information please visit [ConservationSudbury.ca](http://ConservationSudbury.ca)

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

For More Information Contact:

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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