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For Immediate Release

Issued: March 30, 2023

Watershed Conditions Statement – Water Safety

SUDBURY – Conservation Sudbury is issuing a **Water Safety** statement for the Greater Sudbury watersheds effective 1:00 p.m. today. This statement will remain in effect until 11:00 a.m., April 5.

A significant low-pressure system is forecast to bring 20-35 mm/cm (rain/snow) of mixed precipitation in the next couple of days followed by above-freezing daytime temperatures. Water levels and flows in area watercourses are currently within normal seasonal range. Although flooding is not expected, warmer temperatures will accelerate the rate of snowmelt resulting in a sudden rise in water levels and flow. All watersheds within the City of Greater Sudbury still have a significant snowpack that holds anywhere between 100 and 150 mm of water content.

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.

Looking ahead, 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 continue 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