

Flood Warning

North Bay District

Thursday, April 30, 2026
9:30 am

The Ministry of Natural Resources – North Bay District, is advising area residents in the **Lake Temagami area (New), along the Upper Ottawa River (between Lake Timiskaming and the east boundary of Papineau-Cameron Township, including the Town of Mattawa) (Updated), and the shoreline of Lake Nipissing (Updated)** that a Flood Warning bulletin is in effect until Friday, May 08, 2026 at 4:00pm.

Residents in these areas should keep a close watch on conditions and exercise caution around lakes, rivers, creeks and streams. Spring freshet is under way and water levels and flows remain high as snow in the north continues to melt. Flooding persists in some areas and could occur in others. Please alert and or monitor any children and pets under your care to possible dangers and supervise their activities around waterbodies.

The ministry is closely monitoring the weather and developing watershed conditions. Further updates will be issued as appropriate.

TECHNICAL INFORMATION

Description of Weather System

The current forecast for the next five (5) days is calling for less than 10mm of rain throughout the effected areas. Daytime temperatures will range between 5°C and 12°C. Nighttime temperatures will remain below 0°C or hover around the freezing mark.

Description of Current Conditions

Lake Temagami (New): On April 29, the average water level at Lake Temagami was 293.94m. Water levels are expected to rise and **enter the flood allowance (294.0m to 294.20m) in the next few days.**

Town of Mattawa area (Updated): Discharge out of the Timiskaming Dam is going to increase to 2800 m³/s over the next few days. Water levels on the Upper Ottawa River are

expected to increase and water levels in the Mattawa area are anticipated to surpass the start of damage level of 154.8m, **reaching 155.0m by May 1.**

Lake Nipissing (Updated): On April 29 the average water level on the lake was measured at 196.27m and continues to exceed the maximum “non-damage” level (196.22m). Lake levels may rise another five (5) to six (6) cm before they may begin to stabilize. When the lake begins to stabilize depends on the amount of rainfall that is received.

Above seasonal temperatures late last week and over the weekend has accelerated snow melt in the north and contributed to inflows and runoff. The risk of rising water levels and flows remains high as remaining snowpack has a high moisture content and reduced ability to absorb any rain events. If further rain events occur, watercourses throughout the impacted areas are expected to react accordingly.

The ground in some of the effected areas remains saturated and has very little capacity to absorb moisture from rainfall or runoff.

Structures such as homes, boat houses and docks could be at risk of flooding if located near lake/river level or are in other low-laying flood prone areas that have a history of flooding. Residents in these areas are encouraged to monitor conditions and prepare accordingly.

Municipalities, residents and visitors, especially those in low-lying areas and along shorelines, are encouraged to monitor conditions and prepare accordingly. Shorelines and banks adjacent to waterbodies are very slippery and unstable at this time and when combined with cold, fast flowing water, pose a serious hazard.

Everyone is encouraged to prepare accordingly and keep a close watch of local weather forecasts, special weather statements and warnings as weather systems can be dynamic, and paths of travel and amount and type of precipitation may change.

This message remains in effect until Friday May 8 at 4pm, or until it's updated.

DEFINITIONS

- **WATERSHED CONDITIONS STATEMENT – WATER SAFETY:** indicates that high flows, melting ice or other factors could be dangerous for such users as boaters, anglers and swimmers but flooding is not expected.
- **WATERSHED CONDITIONS STATEMENT – FLOOD OUTLOOK:** gives early notice of the potential for flooding based on weather forecasts calling for heavy rain, snow melt, high winds or other conditions
- **SHORELINE CONDITIONS STATEMENT – WATER SAFETY:** indicates that **along the Great Lakes shorelines high water**, melting ice or other factors could be dangerous but flooding is not expected.

- **SHORELINE CONDITIONS STATEMENT – FLOOD OUTLOOK:** gives early notice of the potential for flooding **along the Great Lakes shorelines** based on weather and lake conditions, and water safety information.
- **FLOOD WATCH:** potential for flooding exists within specific watercourses and municipalities.
- **FLOOD WARNING:** flooding is imminent or occurring within specific watercourses and municipalities.

LEARN MORE

- Surface Water Monitoring Centre public webpage www.ontario.ca/page/surface-water-monitoring-centre
- Environment Canada bulletins: www.weather.gc.ca
- A close watch on local conditions and weather forecasts from Environment Canada is recommended.

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