



The Crowe Valley Conservation Authority is issuing the following **WATERSHED CONDITIONS STATEMENT** – effective immediately, **Friday, March 31 2023**.

WATER CONDITIONS STATEMENT – WATER SAFETY

Recent snowmelt in the Crowe Valley Conservation Authority watershed this week has resulted in an increase lake levels, stream and river flows. Anticipated precipitation and warmer temperatures will continue to melt the snowpack throughout all reaches of the watershed and contribute more runoff into the watercourses over the weekend and next week.

Minor flooding in flood prone areas of the Crowe Valley watershed is likely or already occurring. Residents should consider taking the necessary precautions to protect their property. The CVCA recommends:

- Securing items that might float away
- Ensure emergency phone numbers are current
- Have a personal emergency plan in place and know your municipalities Emergency Preparedness Plan

Flows around dams and hydro generation plants have increased and the ice thinning could be severe for a considerable distance from any dam. Structures such as culverts and bridges with fast flowing water going through or underneath them must be avoided as well. Ice which was used recreationally or walked on only days ago will begin to wear away and may not be safe. CVCA staff strongly advise residents, especially children stay away from these dangerous zones.

Hypothermia is also a threat for anyone who ignores the warnings and either falls through the ice or into open water. Avoid banks of rivers and streams where snow and ice make slippery or unstable walking conditions which could lead to accidentally falling into water. Smaller tributaries such as streams, creeks and ditches with fast flowing water must be avoided to eliminate exposure to hazardous conditions.

The Crowe Valley Conservation Authority has issued this Water Safety Statement to inform the public of current water levels, flows and changing ice conditions. This Statement will be updated as per weather and watershed conditions change.

CVCA staff will continue to monitor levels and flows daily and this Watershed Conditions Statement will be updated as conditions warrant. If there are any questions or concerns, contact Tim Pidduck, CVCA General Manager or Neil McConkey, Water Resources Supervisor at 613-472-3137. The CVCA includes portions of the municipalities of Trent Hills, Stirling-Rawdon, Marmora and Lake, Havelock-Belmont-Methuen, North Kawartha, Wollaston, Limerick, Tudor and Cashel, Faraday and Highlands East.

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