



WATERSHED CONDITIONS STATEMENT

237897 Inglis Falls Road, R.R.#4, Owen Sound, On N4K 5N6 519-376-3076 www.greysauble.on.ca

Message Number: 2019-3
Issued on: October 31, 2019
Issued by: Grey Sauble Conservation Authority

TO: Watershed Municipalities and Watershed Media

MESSAGE:

A cold front associated with an intense low-pressure system will move across Lake Huron and Georgian Bay today (Thursday, October 31, 2019), bringing with it high winds. Strong northwest winds are expected to begin later today and are forecast to peak overnight and into Friday. Maximum sustained wind speeds of 40-50 kilometres (km) per hour with gusts up to 80 km/hr. Winds are forecast to diminish throughout the day Friday, but will remain steady out of the northwest, before shifting southwest late in the day.

The strong winds, combined with near record-high water levels on Lake Huron/Georgian Bay, will result in higher than normal waves hitting shoreline areas. This event will likely be similar to the wind/wave event the area experienced two weeks ago.

The increased wave height may result in minor flooding of low-lying shoreline areas, as well as increased risk of erosion. The areas most affected within the Grey Sauble Watershed will be the Southern portions of Georgian Bay. However, other areas should continue to monitor their shorelines.

This message will remain in effect until 9:00 a.m. on Saturday, November 2, 2019, unless local conditions warrant further updates. The Grey Sauble Conservation Authority (GSCA) will continue to monitor watershed conditions and will provide an update if required.

Contact: John Bittorf, Water Resource Coordinator
j.bittorf@greysauble.on.ca, 519-376-3076 (ext. 228)

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Grey Sauble Conservation issues THREE types of messages:

1. Watershed Conditions

Statement - Water Safety/Flood Outlook

These are general notices of weather conditions that could pose a risk to personal safety of which have the potential to lead to flooding.

- i) Water Safety: High flows, unsafe banks, melting ice, etc.
- ii) Flood Outlook: Early notice of the potential for flooding based on weather forecasts calling for heavy rain, etc.

2. Flood Watch

Flooding is possible in specific watercourses or municipalities. Municipalities, emergency services and individual landowners in flood-prone areas should prepare.

3. Flood Warning

This is the most serious type of message: flooding is imminent or already occurring in specific watercourses or municipalities.