

Flood Watch

Thunder Bay - Ignace District

Thursday, April 23, 2026
12:00hrs

The Ministry of Natural Resources– Thunder Bay - Ignace District is advising area residents that a Flood Watch is in effect in the District until Saturday, April 25, 2026 at 08:00hrs.

Residents in Ignace, Upsala, Raith, Kashabowie, Shebandowan, Armstrong, Thunder Bay and surrounding areas throughout the Thunder Bay Ignace District should keep a close watch on upcoming weather forecasts and local water conditions. Residents should also exercise caution around less traveled roads, lakes, rivers and areas of high potential run-off. There is a risk of high flows in low-lying areas as well as unstable ice and cold, fast flowing water. In the northern area of the district where evening temperatures may drop below freezing, slippery surfaces and freezing rain or snow might also be a risk.

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

TECHNICAL INFORMATION

Description of Weather System

A large system is forecast to move into the District early Thursday morning. Potential rainfall amounts of 20 – 30 mm for the District are expected between early Thursday morning and Friday evening, with the greatest precipitation amounts occurring Friday morning and afternoon.

Description of Current Conditions

There is still snow present in certain areas of the district and the ground is not completely thawed. Rivers and streams are flowing fast due to spring melt over the past couple of weeks. Increasing flows and ice jams are possible. Flooding in low-lying areas can be expected and those areas currently experiencing high water levels or flooding can expect these conditions to continue.

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 and Climate Change Canada is recommended.