



## **Watershed Conditions Statement: Water Safety** **Tuesday, March 4, 2025 to Monday, March 10, 2025**

*Saugeen Conservation advises snowmelt and rain is expected to cause elevated water levels which may lead to localized flooding.*

**ALL SAUGEEN WATERSHED MUNICIPALITIES** – Municipality of Arran-Elderslie, Municipality of Brockton, Township of Chatsworth, Municipality of Grey Highlands, Town of Hanover, Township of Howick, Municipality of Morris-Turnberry, Municipality of South Bruce, Township of Huron-Kinloss, Municipality of Kincardine, Town of Minto, Township of Wellington-North, Town of Saugeen Shores, Township of Southgate, Municipality of West Grey.

Persistent cold temperatures and significant snowfall has resulted in an above-average snowpack and formation of thick ice on local streams and rivers. The snowpack is currently holding an average of 124 mm of water, with areas ranging from 87 to 180 mm. The current thickness of ice on the Saugeen River is estimated to be between 30 and 37 cm. An extensive snowpack and thick river ice leading into spring can bring significant flood potential due to heavy runoff and ice jams.

The current regional forecast indicates above freezing temperatures and 15 to 25 mm of rain today through Wednesday night. The melting of the snowpack accompanied by rain is expected to increase water levels beginning today and continuing into next week. Elevated water levels, in combination with thick river ice, may increase the risk of ice jams should significant break up occur.

Temperatures are forecast to quickly return to freezing later this week, which may diminish the potential of flooding; however, dangerous conditions can be expected due to weakening ice and unstable snow around riverbanks.

The public is reminded to stay away from all watercourses and structures such as bridges, culverts, and dams. Municipal staff should monitor flood-prone areas for ice jams and localized flooding.

Saugeen Conservation staff will be closely monitoring watershed conditions and will provide an update if conditions change. This message will remain in effect until 4:00 p.m. on Monday, March 10, 2025, unless otherwise updated.

To report flooding in your area, visit our website: [saugeenconservation.ca/reportflood](http://saugeenconservation.ca/reportflood)

**For municipal staff and public seeking more information:**

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