

Press Briefing Document

The County of Renfrew began actively monitoring rising water levels on April 19, 2019.

Dates and Times of Declarations of State of Emergencies

- The County of Renfrew declared a state of emergency for Renfrew County on Sunday, April 28th at 1:30pm.
- Mayor Michael Moore from the Township of Whitewater Region declared a state of emergency on April 25th at 9:00pm.
- Mayor Dave Bennett from the Township of Horton declared a state of emergency on April 26th at 7:45am.
- Mayor Tom Peckett from the Township of McNab/Braeside declared a state of emergency on Friday, April 26th at 8:33am.
- Mayor Steve Bennett from the Township of Laurentian Valley declared a state of emergency on Saturday, April 27th at 4:30pm.
- Mayor Brian Hunt from the Township of Greater Madawaska declare a state of emergency on Sunday, April 28th at 8:42am
- Mayor Bob Sweet from the Town of Petawawa declared a state of emergency on Sunday, April 28th at 2:00pm.
- Mayor Janice Visneskie from the Township of Killaloe-Hagarty-Richards declared a state of emergency on Monday, April 29th at 1:30pm.

Disaster Recovery Assistance for Ontarians Program

- On April 29th, Minister Steve Clark from the Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing (MMAH) confirmed that relief funding under the guidelines of the Disaster Recovery Assistance for Ontarians Program would be available.
- The disaster assistance program applies to a primary residence and its basic contents, or to a small business, farm or not-for-profit organization. It provides assistance for emergency expenses and the costs to repair or replace essential property following a natural disaster that are not covered by insurance.
- To confirm if eligible for funding assistance, residents should review the program guidelines at www.Ontario.ca/DisasterAssistance

Support Services Available for Residents

- **Crisis Support Line**, available 24/7/365 by calling 1.844.751.2133 or www.workhealthlife.com
- **Mental Health Crisis Line**, available 24/7 by calling 1.866.996.0091
- **Flood Assistance Centres** are being established in the affected areas to assist residents. Locations established to date include:
 - **Westmeath and District Recreation Centre**
119 Synton Road, Westmeath
Hours of Operation: 8am – 8pm
(Renfrew County and District Health Unit onsite between 11am-7pm)
 - **Horton Community Centre**
1005 Castleford Road, Horton
Hours of Operation: May 8, 2pm – 8pm
May 9, 2pm – 8pm
May 11, 10am – 2pm
- **Red Cross** is providing support for evacuated residents and assistance with temporary accommodations, 1.866.637.4263
- **Ontario Works** is assisting residents with contacting the Red Cross and accepting applications for Emergency Assistance through the Ontario Works Program. Office locations are open 8am-4pm, Monday to Friday in the following locations:
 - Pembroke: 141 Lake Street, 613.732.2601 or 866.894.4849
 - Renfrew: 450 O'Brien Road, Suite 2014, 613.433.9846 or 888.281.7526
 - Killaloe: 1 John Street, 613.757.0770
 - Arnprior: 80 McGonigal Street West, Suite 110, 613.623.5426 or 844.623.5426
- **Renfrew County District Health Unit** is providing health related support services, including safe drinking water and well water testing, etc.
<https://www.rcdhu.com/healthy-living/emergency-preparedness/>
- **Animal Valley Rescue** is providing foster placement for pets for people who have been evacuated. Contact Donita at 613.432.7005

Partner Agencies

- The Canadian Armed Forces is providing military support in the affected areas. 347 military personnel have been deployed across Renfrew County, comprised of 3 units from Garrison Petawawa.
- Emergency Management Ontario is providing on the ground assistance.
- The Canadian Coast Guard has provided 2 manned crafts to assist reaching isolated residents.
- Ministry of Natural Resources & Forestry has also provided fire teams on the ground.

Facts and Statistics

- 570 permanent and 392 seasonal residences have been impacted
- Approximately 100 residents have been displaced
- 1.2 million sandbags distributed across Renfrew County
- 22 large capacity pumps have been distributed

Next Steps

- The date and location of a Public Town Hall meeting for affected residents will be announced in the near future.

Additional Resources

- County of Renfrew Flood Preparation and Recovery document <http://bit.ly/RCFloodPreparation>
- Media images and video clips for media use: <http://bit.ly/RCFlood2019>
- Video link to Press Briefing held on May 3, 2019: <http://bit.ly/RCPressBriefing>
- County of Renfrew social media:
 - Facebook: @TheCountyofRenfrew
 - Twitter: @RenfrewCounty

For more information, please contact:

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