



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Thursday, March 5, 2020

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Spring Safety Message: Be Careful Around Waterways. Hazardous conditions on and around bodies of water.

OSHAWA, ON — The Central Lake Ontario Conservation Authority (CLOCA) is reminding residents of the dangers that exist near bodies of water, particularly around this time of year, and urges people to keep family and pets away from the edges of all waterways.

Spring is quickly approaching and, with warmer temperatures, people look forward to getting outdoors. However, warm temperatures also bring rain, melting snow, and shifting ice which contribute to slippery streambanks and higher, faster flowing water in our watercourses, making these areas extremely dangerous.

The CLOCA watershed received a typical amount of snowfall this year, however recent thaws due to warm temperatures have resulted in an early snowmelt. As the ground remains saturated in many parts of the watershed, increased runoff and higher than normal levels and flows can be expected within our streams.

With March Break nearing, please remind children of the dangers of playing near streams and ponds. We want everyone to enjoy the warm spring weather safely by following the tips below when around the water's edge:

- Keep family and pets away from all bodies of water.
- Avoid all recreational activities in or around water.
- Always stay off roads closed due to flooding and do not attempt to drive or walk through the water, it can be fast moving and deep.
- If you live near water, move outdoor furnishings and other objects away from the water's edge to avoid losing them during the spring high water.

For more information, contact your local Conservation Authority:

Central Lake Ontario Conservation	905-579-0411
Kawartha Conservation	705-328-2271
Lake Simcoe Region Conservation Authority	905-895-1281
Toronto & Region Conservation Authority	416-661-6514
Conservation Halton	905-336-1158
Credit Valley Conservation	905-670-1615
Ganaraska Region Conservation Authority	905-885-8173
Nottawasaga Valley Conservation Authority	705-424-1479

Flood Duty Officer (CLOCA):

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About Central Lake Ontario Conservation (CLOCA)

Central Lake Ontario Conservation (CLOCA) is a local, community based, environmental organization and one of 36 Conservation Authorities responsible for managing watershed resources across Ontario. Established in 1958, CLOCA's jurisdiction is based on the watershed boundaries of four major watercourses and 18 minor watercourses draining an area of over 639 square kilometres. Central Lake Ontario Conservation's watershed stretches from the municipal boundaries of Ajax/Pickering to Clarington, and north from Lake Ontario to the crest of the Oak Ridges Moraine.

Central Lake Ontario Conservation provides a wide variety of science-based watershed management programs and services, delivered in partnership with their municipal partners, local landowners, environmental agencies and all levels of government. Central Lake Ontario Conservation's municipal partners include the Region of Durham, the cities of Oshawa and Pickering, the towns of Ajax and Whitby, the Municipality of Clarington, and the townships of Scugog and Uxbridge.