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For Immediate Release

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## Conservation Authority Expects Localized Flooding as Rivers and Streams Rise

The Upper Thames River Conservation Authority (UTRCA) reports that rivers and streams are rising quickly across the Upper Thames watershed, as a result of overnight rain and melting snow. The watershed has already received an average of 20 mm of rain, and forecasts are calling for an additional 20 mm to 40 mm over the next 36 hours. In the past, similar combinations of rain and melting snow have caused flooding in the following areas:

- **City of Woodstock:** Thames River at Highway 2; Cedar Creek at Southside Park
- **Thames Centre:** Village of Putnam south of Highway 401; Reynolds Creek - Golden Pond Trailer Park
- **East Zorra -Tavistock:** Braemar Trailer Park
- **Zorra:** Ponderosa Trailer Park
- **City of London:**
  - Waubuno Creek - Travelled Road, River Road
  - North Thames River - Windermere and Adelaide Streets; Gibbons Park (Victoria Avenue); Harris Park
  - Pottersburg Creek at Oxford Street (Veterans Memorial Parkway)
  - Thames River - Wellington and Front Streets
- **Western University:** Elgin Hall and Talbot parking lots; Tennis Centre
- **Middlesex Centre:** Former Our Lady of Lourdes Catholic School site; River Road
- **Perth South:** Prospect Hill Campground
- **West Perth:** Motherwell area.
- **City of Stratford:** Dolan Drive; Avon Cemetery; Stratford Golf and Country Club
- **Town of St. Marys:** Thomas Street between Park and Queen Streets; Parkview Drive; St. Marys Golf & Country Club

Residents are reminded to use extreme caution near all watercourses, and to keep children and pets away. Stream banks are very slippery, the water is fast-moving, cold and dangerous, and any remaining ice cover is unstable and thin. Do not go on frozen flood control reservoirs.

The Conservation Authority performs regular snow surveys to track the water content in the snow cover. Last week the average snowpack water equivalent across the watershed was estimated at 40 mm, with some stations reporting as high as 75 mm in the north, and some as low as 30 mm in the south. With the double digit temperatures persisting today and tomorrow, this snowpack has melted or is currently melting. As the ground is largely frozen, this water is running off into our smaller watercourses and eventually to the Thames River.

UTRCA reservoirs at Fanshawe (London), Wildwood (St. Marys) and Pittcock (Woodstock) are being operated to reduce the downstream effects of flooding. Conditions are being monitored and updates will be issued as the event progresses. The UTRCA works closely with the flood coordinators from each municipality to provide timely information and assist them with implementing their flood contingency plans.