

2019 Flooding Update

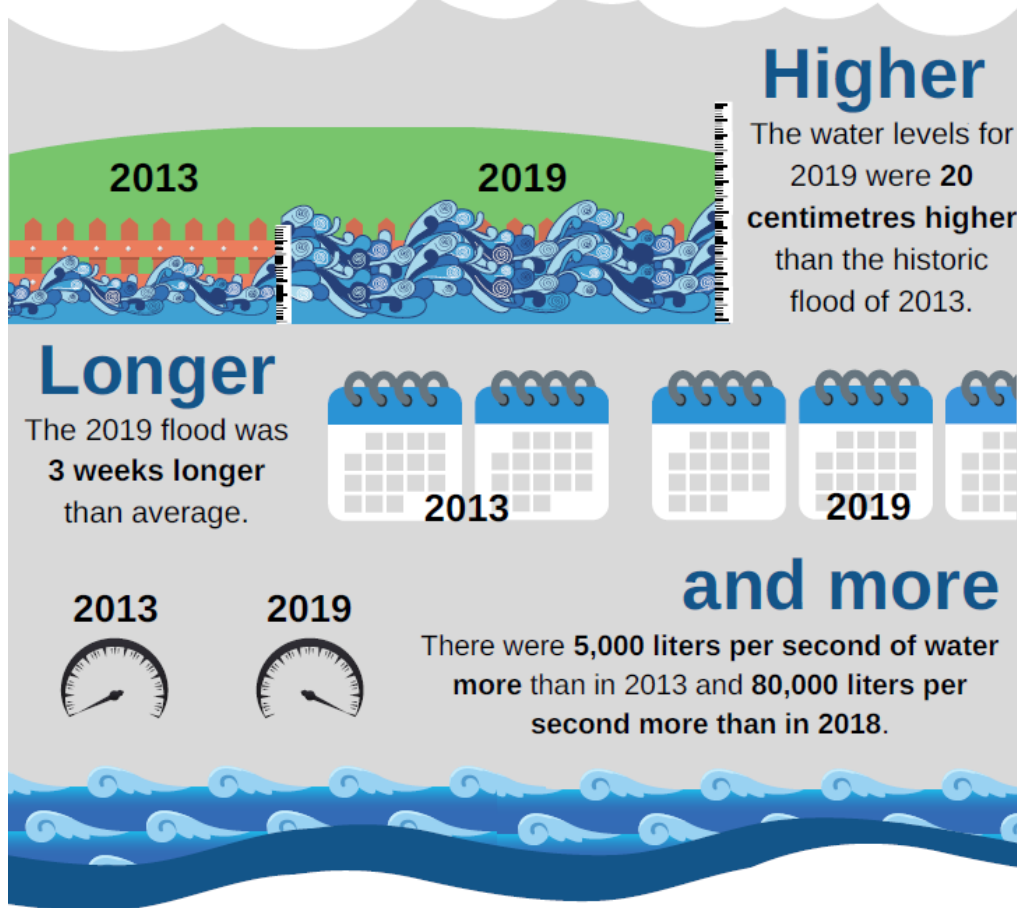
Presented by Mark Pankhurst,
Fire Chief

September 10, 2019



Burnt River Flood2019

This 2019 flooding was **higher, longer and contained more water** than any other flood in this municipality's history.



The floodplain mapping project completed by Kawartha Conservation has shown that potential discharge and flow rate for the Burnt River could be double of this year's historic high event.



Data supplied by Kawartha Conservation.

For more information, contact
kawarthaconservation.com



www.KawarthaLakes.ca



Flood Monitoring Activities

- Environment Canada weather predictions were closely monitored.
- The Flood Operations group monitors 3 distinct water sheds – Black River system, Gull River system and Burnt River system which is the most problematic.
- Conference calls with MNRF, TSW, and Kawartha Conservation are held regularly.
- During the conference call on April 19th, 2019, rain amounts of 15 to 25 mm were predicted by Environment Canada for Friday April 19th into early Saturday morning.
- Significantly more rain was received than predicted (90 to 95 mm of rain with 15 mm more that followed) which lead to Burnt River water levels changing very quickly.

April 20, 2019

- By Saturday April 20, 2019 the water levels at Burnt River had reached flooding threshold levels.
- Red Cross notified Fire Services that they had been called to assist 5 families and they had deployed a team to the area.
- Several roads closed by Saturday evening in the Burnt River area.

April 21, 2019

- Public Works began sandbagging operations at Burnt River works yard.
- Eight people from Cedar Plank Road required assistance to be evacuated from their homes as water levels continued to rise and road access was cut off.

April 21, 2019 cont.

- Fire Department was called to respond to Crooked Court Drive and Basswood Road to assist residents.
- Approx. 1600 sand bags were filled at the Burnt River Depot through the day and an inventory of 1000 sand bags was maintained throughout the flood.
- Water levels appeared to crest by 20:00 hours.

April 22, 2019

- Burnt River was showing signs of decline.
- Continued sandbagging operations at Burnt River Depot
- Black River, Moore Lake and Gull Lake were increasing in levels. Moore Lake was above average level.

April 23, 2019 to May 5, 2019

- Sandbagging operations continued.
- Snow pack had mostly melted in the water shed.
- As of April 23rd Red Cross had provided assistance to a total of 25 individuals.
- Burnt River levels continued to decline and level off.
- Briefing on the flood impact was submitted to the Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing on April 25, 2019.
- May 3, 2019 the Ministry rep toured the flood area.

Disaster Recovery Assistance for Ontarians

- Provincial changes to disaster assistance do not require declaration of emergency by the municipality.
- Coverage for homeowners primary residence only, small owner operated businesses and farms. Insurance policies are the first payer.
- Eligible expenses include clean up, costs to repair or replace essential property, basic emergency expenses such as evacuation travel costs.

Municipal Disaster Recovery Assistance

- Provincial assistance to help municipalities that have incurred extraordinary costs because of a natural disaster.
- City of Kawartha Lakes did not meet the Provincial threshold for municipal funding.

Communications

- Before, during and after the flood information was distributed in tax inserts, on the City website, Twitter, Facebook, Ping Street, and roadside board signs.
- There were over 15,000 views in 2 weeks of the Mayor's flood video with all positive comments.

Debrief Meetings

- Flood debrief meetings were held with the Mayor and ward Councillors as well as City staff.
- Several items were discussed and will be implemented as part of the future flood mitigation strategy.

Going Forward

- The Flood Contingency Plan is being updated with key dates and times incorporated for flood preparations.
- 3000 sandbags will be prepared in advance of the 2020 flood season.
- Locations have been designated for sand bags and/or sandbag supplies:
 - Burnt River Community Centre
 - Dalton Community Centre
 - Chisholm Trail South of Black River
 - Coboconk Service Centre (Medical Centre)
 - Norland Municipal parking lot off Monck Road
 - Cozy Cove and Highway 121
 - Cedar Plan and Riverbank

Going Forward

- First 2020 flood operations meeting will take place in February to assess the environmental conditions for the upcoming season and determine target dates for sand bag operations.
- Sand bag and supplies locations will be posted by the Communications Division when they are in place.
- New signs will be erected to notify people they are entering a flood plain and directing them to the City website for information.
- Human Services is developing a standard operating procedure to include evacuation processes.

Thank You!

- Thank you to the Fire Services staff, Communications team, OPP, Kawartha Lakes Police Service, Red Cross, Public Works, Human Services, Kawartha Conservation Authority, MNRF, TSW and everyone else who spent many hours working during the flood event.

It was a very collaborative team effort throughout the flood event.