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SPRING FLOODING

We have been advised that warm air temperatures and recent rains to the north of the Kawartha Lakes are increasing the inflows to the Kawartha Lakes. As a result, water levels in the tri-lakes (Buckhorn, Pigeon and Chemong), Lower Buckhorn, Lovesick, Stony, Clear and Katchewanooka continue to rise. Hence, localized flooding of low-lying shorelines is occurring along some of the Kawartha Lakes, and in particular Lower Buckhorn Lake, Deer Bay and Katchewanooka Lake are experiencing high water issues and problems at this time. Conditions along all the Kawartha Lakes are expected to worsen with continued snowmelt due to warm air temperatures and the rain-on-snow event forecast to occur over the next 24-48 hours.

Residents of Curve Lake are asked to take precautions to protect life and property and in particular to stay away from fast moving water courses, please warn children to avoid playing in these areas. Please secure docks/structures close to the waterfront and store items that may be swept away in flood water to a higher location, e.g. lawn furniture, landscaping features, etc...

The First Nation is suggesting that those households in flood susceptible areas may want to consider sand bagging vulnerable areas around their home. Sand bags are available in limited quantities from Public Works and from some local hardware stores. Sand is available for flooding from Public Works. Most residents purchase bagged topsoil for their spring gardening. These bags are a great 'sand bag' too and can be re-used for gardening later.

Some tips on sandbagging.

- **Only** sandbag around areas that are susceptible to flooding, e.g. around window wells, door sills, air vents. By locating them closer to your home, fewer bags will be needed.
- **Sandbagging around your entire property is not recommended and in fact may cause greater problems by trapping water that may rise over the sandbags or cause problems for adjacent properties.**
- Place a large tarp or plastic on the bottom and place sand bags on top to create a more effective water barrier.
- Overlap sandbags. The first layer should be lengthwise with the second layer perpendicular to the first, then continue to alternate.
- The base of the sandbags should be three times wide as it is high.

Please refer to the First Nations website at www.curvelakefirstnation.ca for further information and updates.

For Public Works, please call 705-657-2178.

To report flooding, please contact ORCA's Flood Watch Hotline: 705-745-5791 ext. 228 (24 hours).

To report a life threatening flood emergency, contact 911.

The First Nation will continue to monitor the flooding situation and work with other applicable agencies to provide information.

For further information or if you have questions or concerns, please contact the Government Services Office at 705-657-8045.

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