



## For Immediate Release

### **RE: Flooding Update**

#### **Whitewater Region, Ontario - May 4, 2023**

The Township's Municipal Emergency Control Group met today to review the current flooding situation and additional measures to support the safety and well-being of our residents.

Effective 1:00 p.m. on May 3, 2023, Mayor Nicholson declared an emergency under the Emergency Management and Protection Act to protect the property and the health, safety, and welfare of the residents of the Whitewater Region from flooding along the Ottawa River.

#### **Registration**

The Township has initiated a single point of registration to better connect and correspond with affected residents. Residents can [self-register](#) on the main page of the Township [website](#).

Residents can also [register](#) by [telephone](#) by calling the Township at 613-646-2282 Ext. 154.

#### **Wellness Checks**

The Township will be conducting wellness checks by telephone, email, or in-person. We will be prioritizing the property owners that have limited access and the residents that have registered.

#### **Relief Centre**

A Relief Centre coordinated by the Westmeath District Recreation Association (WDRA) will be open to residents commencing May 5, 2023. The relief centre will be open to the public:

- weekdays from 1:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m., and
- weekends from 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

Showers, washroom facilities and information will be available at the relief centre.

#### **Evacuation**

Those residents with restricted road access are being asked to prepare to evacuate if needed. Those residents that voluntarily evacuate are encouraged to do so with family or friends. If possible, it is recommended that the home's hydro be turned off and unnecessary propane cylinders be shut off before leaving for safety reasons.

We ask that evacuations be reported to the Township by calling 613-646-2282 Ext. 154. Those requiring emergency lodging should also contact the Township.

#### **Sand and Sandbags**

The Township will continue to supply sand and sandbags at the identified depot locations throughout the Township.

Filled sandbags are available at the Command Centre located at the Westmeath Public Works Garage at 1798 Westmeath Road. Residents may collect the filled sandbags as required.

The Township may request additional support from volunteers in the coming days. If additional sand or sandbags are needed, please contact the Township at 613-646-2282 Ext. 154.

## **Municipal Services**

The Township advises that regular services, such as pothole filling and gravel road grading, may be affected as municipal resources are deployed to deal with the flooding emergency.

- Weekly curbside waste and recycling collection will continue uninterrupted. Residents are asked to place waste and recycling at a location that is not affected by flooding.
- Effective immediately, the Township Westmeath and LaPasse boat launches are closed except for emergency agencies.

## **Access**

The Township is monitoring roads for flooding and potential closures. Municipal511.ca is being updated to report flooded roads as they become known. The Township advises residents in low lying areas affected by flooding that access may be restricted by emergency services.

## **Single Point of Contact**

For any assistance, please contact 613-646-2282 Ext. 154. on Monday to Sunday from 9:00 a.m. and 4:00 p.m. and after-hours emergency at 613-646-2282 (Option 9).

Anyone in need of immediate and urgent assistance or requiring evacuation outside of the hours noted above, should call 911.

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Additional information:

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