



For Immediate Release

RE: Flood Recovery and Public Information Update

Whitewater Region, Ontario – June 2, 2026

As water levels continue to recede, the Township's Municipal Emergency Control Group (MECG) held its final meeting on May 26, 2026, with the Township's focus now shifting toward recovery efforts.

Recovery Information

Well Water Safety: As directed by the Renfrew County and District Health Unit, effected wells should be tested for bacteria after flood waters recede. Public Health Ontario provides free drinking water testing; information can be found at:

<https://www.rcdhu.com/healthy-living/safe-water/>

Sandbags: Per the Flood Readiness Plan, sand used for flood protection can generally be used as fill (excluding use along watercourses or floodplains), substitute aggregate in construction, or be blended into landscaping.

- Exercise caution when reusing sand that has encountered flood waters due to the potential for contamination and avoid using it in children's play areas.

Sandbags may also be disposed of free of charge at the Township Landfill Site (990 Kohlsmith Road) or returned to the original pickup location.

Debris Management: The Township will be issuing Special Tipping Vouchers to residents to use at the landfill to waive tipping fees on loads being hauled to the landfill. Debris will include the clean-up of materials from flood damaged buildings and structures, as well as outside debris that has floated in because of flooding including trees, wood and other products.

To obtain a Special Tipping Voucher, residents **must** register at the following link: <https://form.foreaction.cloud/submit/whitewater-region> indicating under "Category" → "Flooding" → "Flooding Special Tipping Vouchers".

***Tipping fees will apply if a resident has not registered and obtained Special Tipping Vouchers.**

Roads: Some municipal roads may still require additional work to address damage caused by flooding. The Township Roads Department is aware of the affected areas and is actively carrying out the necessary repairs.

Provincial Funding: On June 4th, 2026, A Provincial Disaster Assessment Team will be visiting affected areas in the Township. Township staff have coordinated meetings with certain affected residents to support the review of the activation of the Provincial Disaster Relief Assistance for Ontarians (DRAO) by the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing. If activated, DRAO provides eligible applicants reimbursements for applicable costs incurred from flooding damages. The Township will provide further updates as information becomes available.

Single Point of Contact

The Township can be contacted at 613-646-2282 from Monday to Friday from 8:30 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, should call 911.

Information Gathering

2026 flood resource information, MNRF bulletins, and relevant press releases can be found on the Township's website.

For safety, all residents should monitor weather conditions and exercise caution near fast moving water.

Ottawa River Regulation Planning Board (ORRPB)

- www.ottawariver.ca/

Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry (MNR)

- <https://www.liaapplications.lrc.gov.on.ca/webapps/swmc/flood-forecasting-and-warning-program/>

Ontario Power Generation (OPG)

- <https://water.opg.com/region/southeast/>

Renfrew County and District Health Unit (RCDHU)

- www.rcdhu.com/

Municipal 511

- www.municipal511.ca/

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Additional information:

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