

NVCA prepared for flood emergencies

The Nottawasaga Valley Conservation Authority (NVCA) doesn't describe it in these terms, but with massive quantities of snow soon to melt, and with the ground saturated from a wet fall, it might be a good time to start thinking about floods.

And the NVCA, along with the other conservation authorities responsible for the GTA and surrounding areas, has been doing just that. There is already a contingency plan in place by which each Authority has been designated as either the 'principle' (sic) or the one that shares the responsibility for each municipality.

The Authority also has the identity of the persons at the municipality who should be alerted. That person has the responsibility for activating the municipality's emergency response plan. The province requires municipalities to have such plans.

The conservation authorities generally have current information about stream levels and rate of flow on their websites.

There are two Authorities responsible for Simcoe County: NVCA and Lake Simcoe Region Conservation Authority (LSRCA).

NVCA is the principal Authority for Adjala-Tosorontio, New Tecumseth, Oro-Medonte, Springwater, Clearview, Wasaga Beach, Collingwood and Essa.

It shares Innisfil and Barrie with LSRCA, the principal Authority for those municipalities.

In Dufferin County, NVCA is responsible for part of Mono and all of Mulmur, Melancthon, Amaranth and Shelburne. There, it shares with Credit Valley Conservation (CVC) and Toronto Region Conservation Authority (TRCA).

CVC is the principal Authority for Orangeville and East Garafraxa, according to the contingency plan report.

The contingency plan includes sources for sandbags and instructions for filling and placing the bags such that they do their intended job of protecting lives and property.

By Wes Keller