

For Immediate Release
July 17, 2019

Tecumseh Flood Response

The Town of Tecumseh has been responding to higher water levels in the Great Lakes system since earlier this year. Projects completed to date include: providing free sandbags and sand to residents along the shorelines of Lake St. Clair and Pike Creek; conducting topographical surveys of the shoreline to determine critical areas for protection; shoring up pump stations and clearing drainage channels; and, developing a Flood Emergency Response Plan. The emergency response plan was approved by Council on July 9.

“We have surpassed all previous high lake levels and expect an additional two to four inches before the waters recede,” said Gary McNamara, Mayor of Tecumseh. “In addition to the high water levels, the north/northeast winds are creating waves that are beating our shorelines and threatening to breach breakwalls. We are taking every measure possible to shore up our defenses and ensure our residents are prepared and protected.”

The Town has convened an Emergency Control Group that consists of representatives from ERCA, Essex Power, Enbridge, Ontario’s Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing, the OPP, Tecumseh Fire and Rescue Services and Town staff. The group will hold their inaugural meeting on July 25 with regular meetings and check-ins thereafter to develop and implement actions on flood response and provide regular updates to the public. All information will be posted at www.tecumseh.ca.

Sandbags continue to be available to residents along the Lake St. Clair and Pike Creek shorelines and can be picked up at Town Hall, Monday to Friday from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Sand is available for bagging at Lakewood Park South in the parking lot. A full video on building a sandbag wall is available at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=rj7aUwIHYlw>.

While the Town has not enacted a wake free area on the shoreline, boaters are strongly requested to be mindful of the adverse impacts that wave action has on the shoreline. Waves from boat wakes can push water farther up on the shoreline and this has a direct impact on properties and municipal infrastructure like roads and pump stations.

Information on how to protect your property from flooding is available on the Town website at www.tecumseh.ca/floodprotection. Subsidies for installing a backwater valve and/or disconnecting downspouts and installing a sump pump are also available at www.tecumseh.ca/financialsubsidy. Residents who already have a backwater valve or sump pump installed should conduct regular checks that they are clean and operating effectively.

Information on this and all Town of Tecumseh news and events is available at www.tecumseh.ca, Twitter (@TownofTecumseh), and Facebook (www.facebook.com/townoftecumseh).

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