

NEWS RELEASE

A News Release from the Cataraqi Region Conservation Authority

5 December 2007

Low water level warning is cancelled

Kingston -- The Cataraqi Region Water Response Team (WRT) has ended the Level 1 Low Water Condition declared on Sept. 18.

“Rain throughout November has replenished regional lakes and streams and has started to alleviate low ground water levels,” says Mara Shaw, watershed management coordinator for the Cataraqi Region Conservation Authority (CRCA).

The conservation authority is the WRT’s convening authority. CRCA and WRT jurisdictions correspond and include all or parts of 11 municipalities. These are: Athens, Brockville, Elizabethtown-Kitley, Front of Young, Gananoque, Kingston, Leeds and the Thousand Islands, Loyalist, Napanee, Rideau Lakes and South Frontenac.

The WRT is convened after an extended period of low rainfall often resulting in low water levels. It may issue three successively serious low water level declarations. Under a Level I warning, the WRT advocates for a 10 per cent cut in water consumption. Under Level II, this increases to 20 per cent. A Level III is a severe drought declaration.

“The WRT asks that residents continue to conserve water because ground water levels are still low in many areas,” says Ms. Shaw. “We note also that Lake Ontario remains below average levels for this time of year.”

The WRT does not supersede existing agencies, policies or laws. Instead, it coordinates actions of water management agencies, private sector organizations and water users during drought.

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For more information call:

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