

CONSERVATION MEDIA RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

November 20, 2025

QUINTE WATERSHED MOVES INTO A LEVEL 2 LOW WATER CONDITION

Quinte Conservation and the Low Water Response Team have reduced the region's low water condition to level 2.

Over the last several weeks, the watershed's low water conditions have stabilized with a return of more seasonal rainfall amounts. The last week of October saw significant precipitation which helped to offset dryer conditions experienced during September and the first half of October. The monthly rainfall totals for October ended at normal, or near normal, levels for each of the local watersheds. Anticipated rain over the rest of November will help improve drought conditions further.

Improving groundwater levels and streamflow conditions have been observed. Stream flows are improving but remain well below normal for this time of year. Quinte Conservation continues to receive reports of isolated dry or depleted wells, but many have started to recover. Water hauling companies are still operating but the demand has peaked.

Low water indicators of rainfall and stream flows are measured on a three-month basis for determining level status and changes. The change to a less severe low water level 2 status is based on field observations; however, it may require several months to return to normal conditions with no observed effects.

A Level 2 Low Water Condition indicates a potentially serious water supply problem. This level often means minor water supply issues are encountered and there is the potential for major supply problems. Non-essential water use should be reduced. A 20% reduction in water use is requested.

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This message will be in effect until (or updated before) **December 18, 2025.**

Quinte Conservation is a community-based environmental protection agency. It serves 18 municipalities in the watersheds of the Moira, Napanee and Salmon Rivers and Prince Edward County. It provides cost-effective environmental expertise and leadership. Quinte Conservation's main goal is to create a sustainable ecosystem where people and nature live in harmony. More information about Quinte Conservation is available at www.quinteconservation.ca.

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