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## **MEDIA RELEASE** ***FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE***

March 6, 2007

### **Spring Weather Means Extra Caution Near Water**

As children begin their spring break later this week, Kawartha Conservation is reminding parents and caregivers to be alert to the dangers that exist near the water.

Spring is approaching and with its warmer weather also comes melting snow, rain and the break up of ice along rivers, streams, ponds and lakes. As temperatures rise above zero, thinning ice will become hazardous. Waters will be fast flowing, at a higher level than normal, and will still be extremely cold. River banks and other areas adjacent to water may become slippery and unsafe.

While no significant snow melt is forecast for this week, conditions can change rapidly, sometimes within as little as 48 hours, and residents may be caught unaware.

“Please use caution around any water body over the next few weeks, and be especially mindful of where your children are playing,” encourages Iryna Shulyarenko, Kawartha Conservation hydrologist. “Let’s make this a safe and enjoyable spring break for everyone.”

Kawartha Conservation monitors water levels year round as part of its flood forecasting and warning program and is closely watching spring water levels. Should conditions warrant, Kawartha Conservation will issue a flood message to advise watershed municipalities and the public. For more information, call Kawartha Conservation at 705 328-2271 ext. 211, toll free 1 800 668-5722, or visit [www.kawarthaconservation.com](http://www.kawarthaconservation.com).

Kawartha Conservation is a watershed-based environmental organization focused on providing abundant clean water within a healthy landscape. It is one of 36 conservation authorities in Ontario providing natural resources management. The Kawartha watershed intersects portions of the City of Kawartha Lakes; Township of Scugog; Township of Brock; Municipality of Clarington; Township of Galway-Cavendish & Harvey; and Township of Cavan-Millbrook-North Monaghan.

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