



Media Release

THE CORPORATION OF THE CITY OF VERNON
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

DATE: June 28, 2022

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Severe Thunderstorm Watch and High Streamflow Advisory issued for North Okanagan

Residents are reminded to remain cautious near creeks and waterways in the North Okanagan, as spring freshet and periodic rain continues across the region.

As of 9:15 a.m. today (June 28), the BC River Forecast Centre issued a [High Streamflow Advisory](#) for the Okanagan, including tributaries east of Vernon. Shortly afterward, Environment and Climate Change Canada issued a [Severe Thunderstorm Watch](#) for the North Okanagan, including Vernon.

The [forecast for Vernon](#) is calling for approximately 5 to 10 mm of rain today, with a chance of showers and risk of thunderstorm carrying into tomorrow.

City crews continue to monitor all three local creeks (Upper BX, Lower BX, and Vernon Creek) and the weather system in our region. Crews report the water level on Upper BX creek has started to drop over the last week. The outflow from Kalamalka Lake into Vernon Creek has increased slightly in the last couple weeks, however, capacity remains available.

Sudden or prolonged rain events can increase water flow and water levels quickly, and potentially unexpectedly, so everyone is encouraged to stay away from creekbanks and to be aware of possible hazards.

The City encourages all property owners adjacent to creeks and streams to consider whether they are prepared for rising water levels and what steps they may need to take to mitigate risk and protect their property. Property owners are responsible for protecting private property. If you are looking for resources for preparedness information, you can visit the PreparedBC portion of [Province's website](#).

If residents are concerned about potential flood risks on their property, they can access sand and sandbags at the City of Vernon Operations building, located at 1900 48th Avenue. The sand pile and sandbags are located outside the east entrance of the operations yard, located on Pleasant Valley Road. Residents are reminded to bring their own shovel to fill sandbags.

For the most up-to-date information on flood and freshet conditions and advisories, visit the [BC River Forecast Centre](#) web page at gov.bc.ca.