



MEDIA RELEASE

For Immediate Release
March 31, 2011

Flows From Duncairn Dam Increased

The City of Swift Current received notice from the Saskatchewan Watershed Authority indicating an increase in the water volumes being released from the Duncairn Dam Reservoir. This is intended to continue clearing the snow and ice from the Swift Current Creek channel to accommodate increased runoff at a future date as well as increase storage capacity in the Reservoir.

Clinton Molde, Regional Manager for the Saskatchewan Watershed Authority stated “the flow rate from the Duncairn Dam Reservoir has been steadily increased over the past number of weeks from the initial level of 100 cubic feet per second (cfs) to the current volume of 500cfs. This new flow rate, which was implemented this afternoon, is again to help speed up the process of clearing the creek channels of snow and ice however we don’t believe a significant rise in creek levels will occur.”

During this release, there will be faster flowing water and residents are reminded to stay safe and keep children away from the creek.

For the past eight weeks the City of Swift Current and appropriate agencies, including the Saskatchewan Watershed Authority have been meeting on a weekly basis to acquire information and develop action plans should the spring runoff result in flooding in areas throughout the city.

Mac Forster, Director of Engineering indicated that “we will continue to monitor creek flows and provide the public with updated information as we receive it. However as daytime temperatures continue to increase, we encourage residents throughout the city to take precautionary actions in terms of clearing snow and trenching standing water away from the foundations of their homes and ensuring sump pumps are in good working condition. This will help minimize the effects of surface water runoff around homes. City crews will also continue to address surface runoff on streets and lanes by ensuring catchbasins and gutters are clear of ice and debris.”

Saskatchewan Watershed Authority and Agri-Environment Services Branch will continue to monitor inflows and water levels in Duncairn Reservoir.

“We would like to remind our residents that sandbags and sand are available free of charge at the Service Center, located at 2074 South Service Road West. We encourage city residents to take proactive measures relating to protecting their individual properties from potential flooding,” says Forster.

Federal government literature on flood preparation is available at city hall should residents wish to acquire further information.

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For more information, contact:

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or

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