

Lake Winnipeg Flood Risk for Autumn 2009

The water level on Lake Winnipeg is currently 217.9 metres (714.8 feet) above sea level and is projected to decline slightly throughout the months of October and November.

The province is currently forecasting that there is a 10 per cent chance of a storm event similar to what we saw in 2005 when water levels were slightly higher.

Following is a summary of levels which could occur for a storm event with a 10 year return period (that is, one with a 10 % chance of occurring):

	<u>Gimli, Victoria Beach, Grand Beach</u>	<u>Winnipeg Beach</u>	<u>Dunnottar</u>
Shoreline with Steep Slope (vertical wall or dike)	219.9 (721.5 feet)	222.0 (722.0 feet)	220.2 (722.5 feet)
Shoreline with gentle slope (1:10 slope)	219.5 (720.0 feet)	219.6 (720.5 feet)	219.8 (721.0 feet)

The levels would be about 0.3 metres (one foot) lower for a 5 year storm (that is, a storm with a 20 % chance of occurring), 0.5 metres (half a foot) higher for a 20 year storm (that is, a storm with a 5 % chance of occurring), and 0.3 metres (one foot) higher for a 50 year storm (that is, a storm with a 2 % chance of occurring).

The province encourages citizens to protect their properties.

In 2005, 48 kilometres of dikes were constructed or enhanced under local states of emergency along Lake Winnipeg to protect homes and cottages against flooding due to serious fall storms in which wind setup and wave action caused the lake to rise about 2.1 metres (seven feet).

For those who have maintained the dike constructed under extraordinary emergency circumstances for their protection by the province in 2005, the dikes are continuing to provide flood protection.