

July 31, 2009

## **Water Safety Shouldn't Take a Holiday This Weekend** *Recent rainfall has increased water flows on many Ontario river systems*

Ontario Power Generation (OPG) reminds people to use care around lakes and rivers this civic holiday weekend.

The unusually cool and wet summer means some rivers and lakes may be higher than normal for this time of year, especially around the province's hydroelectric generating stations.

Hydroelectric facilities are often remotely controlled to generate electricity as needed. This causes frequent and rapid changes in the water flow. This can create sudden changes in water levels, strong undertows, turbulence and sudden, powerful surges of water moving downstream in what was once calm looking surface water.

All waterways where an OPG dam or hydroelectric station is located have well-positioned warning signs, buoys, fences, booms, and barriers.

OPG offers the public a number of educational materials on water safety around dams and hydroelectric stations including a brochure and water safety DVD. OPG also has a television ad that warns people to stay clear, and stay safe near hydroelectric dams and stations. You can view the ad, or request free educational materials by visiting [www.opg.com](http://www.opg.com).

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### **OPG MEDIA CONTACT**

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