On Areas Adjacent to PSW-30 Strasburg Woods Natural Area

City of Kitchener
Council Presentation
Date: December 2, 2024

Annual Precipitation Trends

Government of Canada | Gouvernement du Canada

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Changes in precipitation

Average annual precipitation has increased across Canada. With continued climate change, future precipitation is expected to increase in some regions and seasons.

Flooding Due to Heavy Rain

Environment Canada: recorded 100 mm of rain on July 16 2024

> triggering a Rainfall Warning for Waterloo Region

> most the region had seen since July 10 2006

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Flooding closed a section of Huron Road at Homer Watson Boulevard

Normal Strasburg Creek Level at Metal Bridge 1

Flooding at Strasburg Creek Metal Bridge 1

Creek level rises 36 inches following heavy rain and

Normal Strasburg Creek Level at Boardwalk Trail

Boardwalk Trail

Level rose 36 inches following heavy rain overcoming creek banks and flooding the forest floor throughout

Normal Strasburg Creek Level

Flooding Strasburg Creek

Level rose 36 inches following heavy rain overcoming creek banks and flooding the forest floor throughout Strasburg Woods Natural Area for over 2 days.

Normal Wards Pond Level

Flooding of Wards Pond

Wards Pond level rose 36 inches; causing overflow at old dam.

Normal Level Wards Pond at Metal Bridge 2

Flooding Breaches Wards Pond Bank Metal Bridge 2

Wards Pond flooding causes banks to overflow outside of

Strasburg Creek and PSW-30 Erosion

Flooding events in the coming years will continue to

Flooding Due to Heavy Rain

Rain caused numerous basements to flood on nearby streets.

This is the best that our engineering can do.
Further compression of PSW-30 will:
> cause flooding impacts to be worse
> limit the area's ability to absorb water
> disturb carbon retention

Although some geotextiles can limit penetration of heavier chemicals, geotextiles will allow sodium chloride to penetrate into the ground, which counters the region's current commitment to keeping
water. This will
or the area and the

Geotextiles have a maximum 50 year life expectancy and will fail, eventually needing to be replaced at greater cost and impact to the environment.