

River Flood Data – Sackville and Lahave Rivers, Nova Scotia

Sackville River at Bedford 01EJ001

Drainage Basin Area 146 km² (56 mi²)

Period of record 1970 to date.

Maximum Instantaneous Peak Flow **103 m³/s (3635 ft³/s) at 2327 AST March 31/03**. Water level (assumed datum) recorded was **3.598 m (11.8 ft)**, or about 1 m (3.3 ft) higher than those recorded in the 1994, 1996, and 2000 flood events.

Previous Max Inst. Peak Flows recorded on the Sackville River are:

90.3 m ³ /s (3186 ft ³ /s)	0251 AST on Jan 16/78	water level 2.970 m (9.74 ft)
85.0 m ³ /s (2999 ft ³ /s)	2103 AST on Aug 16/71	water level 2.930 m (9.61 ft)
73.0 m ³ /s (2576 ft ³ /s)	2237 AST on Mar 14/80	water level 2.680 m (8.79 ft)
63.5 m ³ /s (2241 ft ³ /s)	1200 AST on Dec 20/00	water level 2.770 m (9.09 m)

During the last several years or so it has become quite common to get at least some flooding on the Sackville River at least once per year. These floods are in the 2.6 to 2.8 m (8.5 to 9.2 foot) water level range which results in the parking lots to flood upstream of our gauge. The flood of March 31/03 saw water levels about 1 m (3.3 ft) higher than has been experienced in the last twenty years or so.

Lahave River at West Northfield 01EF001

Drainage Basin Area 1250km² (480 mi²)

Period of Record 1915 to date

Period of Automated continuous Record 1950 to date

Maximum Instantaneous Peak Flow **751 m³/s (26500 ft³/s) at 0600 AST April 01/03**. Water level (assumed datum) recorded was **5.301 m (17.39 ft)**, second highest water level ever recorded. In 1956, a Max Inst. Peak Flow of **1110 m³/s (39169 ft³/s)** was recorded Jan 10/56 at 1200 AST. Water level at that time was **5.550 m** which is 0.25 m (0.8 ft) higher than experienced on April 1/03.

These two events, separated by nearly half a century in time, are flood events that recorded water levels 1.5 to 2.0 m (4.9 to 6.6 ft) higher than any other flood event in the past 50 years.

Normal Max Inst Peak Flows run is in the 200 to 400 m³/s (7057 to 14115 ft³/s) range, more often closer to 200 than 400.
