

May 28, 2004

**Riverwoods Residents
Des Plaines River Area**

Flood Information

Dear Resident:

As you have no doubt observed for yourself, the water level on the Des Plaines River has crested and started to recede. While additional rain is forecast, the National Weather Service is not predicting increased stages, and normal water levels are anticipated on Monday.

Based on our measurements, the river level crested at an elevation of approximately 641.9 at Deerfield Road on Wednesday evening, six inches below FEMA's 10-year flood elevation at this location (642.4). The 100-year elevation is above 645.0.

With the generous assistance of the Lake County Emergency Management Agency, the U.S. Navy, the Army Corps of Engineers, the Red Cross, the Lake County Department of Corrections, and the Deerfield Park District, as well as local residents and businesses, particularly Morgan Stanley, the Village was able to make available thousands of sandbags to protect homes and property.

We are currently making arrangements for disposal of sandbags when the waters have returned to normal levels. Residents may keep as many clean sandbags as they wish; however, all bags which have been in contact with floodwaters must be disposed of properly.

To prevent carbon monoxide poisoning, please **do not operate gas-powered pumps inside buildings**. Please continue to keep children and pets away from floodwaters, which can contain high levels of bacteria and chemical contaminants. Finally, we remind residents that it is a violation of Village and County sewer use ordinances to deliberately introduce stormwater into the sanitary sewer system. Generally speaking, manholes with closed lids (as opposed to open grates) are not intended to receive stormwater.

While we certainly would prefer not to have flooding, this event has illustrated how homeowners, corporate citizens, and outside agencies are willing to pull together in assisting Village staff and officials in times of crisis. We have learned much that we can apply during future events.

We will distribute additional information when the sandbag disposal plans have been finalized. In the meantime, we wish everyone a safe and happy holiday weekend.

Sincerely,

Patrick J. Glenn, P.E., Village Engineer