

Dear Neighbor:

Please take a few minutes to fill out the Data Collection Questionnaire for Melrose Park residents regarding the recent flood. These questionnaires will be used to determine whether Melrose Park can be included in a federal disaster area declaration.

Being declared a federal disaster area allows FEMA (Federal Emergency Management Agency) to provide assistance to residents. Disaster assistance is money or direct assistance from FEMA to individuals, families and businesses in an area whose property has been damaged or destroyed and whose losses are not covered by insurance. It is meant to help you with critical expenses that cannot be covered in other ways. Most disaster assistance from the Federal government is in the form of low interest loans administered by the Small Business Administration.

Money is available for necessary expenses and serious needs caused by the disaster including:

- Disaster-related medical and dental costs.
- Clothing; household items (room furnishings, appliances); tools (specialized or protective clothing and equipment) required for your job; necessary educational materials (computers, school books, supplies).
- Fuels for primary heat source (heating oil, gas).
- Clean-up items (wet/dry vacuum, dehumidifier).
- Disaster damaged vehicle.
- Moving and storage expenses related to the disaster (moving and storing property to avoid additional disaster damage while disaster-related repairs are being made to the home).
- Other necessary expenses or serious needs as determined by FEMA.
- Other expenses that are authorized by law.

By filling out this application does not automatically make you eligible for a grant or federal low interest loan.

Please be advised that the decision for eligibility is made by the federal government and NOT by the Village of Melrose Park.

Please take a few minutes to help yourself and your community by filling out the form and returning it to Village Hall at 1000 N. 25th Avenue.

Sincerely,

Mayor Ronald M. Serpico