

Emergency Flood Recovery Resources for Museums

DAMAGE REPORTS

AAM is a member of the Heritage Emergency National Task Force. The Task Force has developed a website that centralizes damage reports and response efforts.

<http://www.heritagepreservation.org/PROGRAMS/TFRespRecover.html>

PHONE ASSISTANCE

The American Institute for Conservation of Historic & Artistic Works (AIC) has a Cultural Emergency Response Team (CERT) to respond to the needs of cultural institutions during emergencies through coordinated efforts with first responders, state agencies, vendors and the public. Team members are trained to assess damage and initiate salvage efforts, and are available to provide telephone assistance and to visit the affected site as soon as it is accessible.

Contact 202-661-8068 for 24-hour assistance. (The number also connects to a monitored e-mail address.)

<http://www.conservation-us.org/index.cfm?fuseaction=Page.viewPage&pageId=695>

The Northeast Document Conservation Center (NEDCC) offers emergency telephone assistance 24 hours a day for institutions and individuals with damaged paper-based collections.

Contact 978-470-1010.

<http://www.nedcc.org/disaster/disaster.php>

ONLINE GUIDES

The Library of Congress Preservation Directorate features a webpage titled "Emergency Drying Procedures for Water Damaged Collections." It features concise information on air-drying paper, books and photographs and recovery from mold.

<http://lcweb.loc.gov/preserv/emerg/dry.html>

The Minnesota Historical Society website shares salvage procedures for a wide variety of materials, including textiles, photographs, wooden objects, leather, paintings and paper.

<http://www.mnhs.org/preserve/conservation/emergency.html>

The National Park Service website features a webpage titled "After the Flood: Emergency Stabilization and Conservation Measures." It suggests planning methods to prevent additional damage to historic structures and to maintain historical integrity.

<http://palimpsest.stanford.edu/byorg/nps/npsafter.html>

The National Trust for Historic Preservation website features a document titled "Treatment of Flood-Damaged Older & Historic Buildings." It addresses cleaning out mud, foundation problems, caring for wet plaster, treatment for saturated wood-framed walls and floors and treatment for historic wallpapers and interior finishes.

http://www.preservationnation.org/issues/gulf-coast-recovery/additional-resources/flood_booklet.pdf

The Northeast Document Conservation Center offers 2 technical leaflets. One addresses emergency salvage of wet books and records; the second focuses on the emergency salvage of wet photographs.

http://www.nedcc.org/resources/leaflets/3Emergency_Management/06SalvageWetBooks.php

http://www.nedcc.org/resources/leaflets/3Emergency_Management/07SalvageWetPhotos.php

FUNDING

FEMA 2010 Federal Disaster Declarations.

This website has information about which counties are included in designated disaster areas and are therefore eligible for federal disaster assistance.

<http://www.fema.gov/news/disasters.fema>

Guide to Navigating FEMA and SBA Disaster Aid for Cultural Institutions.

This concise website leads cultural institutions through the process of applying to the Small Business Administration (SBA) and Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) for assistance after major disasters. It includes links to necessary forms.

<http://www.heritagepreservation.org/federal/Index.html>

Foundation Grants for Preservation in Libraries, Archives, and Museums, 2010. This free online publication, produced jointly by the Library of Congress and the Foundation Center, lists 2,270 grants of \$5,000 or more awarded by 505 foundations, from 2005 through the publication date of this guide. It covers grants to public, academic, research, school, and special libraries, and to archives and museums for activities related to conservation and preservation.

<http://www.loc.gov/preserv/foundtn-grants.html>

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Additional information is available online to members of AAM. Log-in to the Information Center at www.aam-us.org and follow these paths:

Information Center > Facilities & Risk Management > Risk Management > Emergency Preparedness & Recovery > Flood & Water Damage.

Information Center > Collections Stewardship > Conservation & Historic Preservation > Collections Care by Type.

Institutional museum members can also contact the Information Center staff for customized reference help at infocenter@aam-us.org.