

Disaster Recovery Resources

(N.B. the listings provided here are for informational purposes and do not imply endorsement)

AIC Collections Emergency Response Team (AIC-CERT)

Members are available to provide 24/7 disaster assistance to museums, historical societies, libraries, archives, and the general public. The AIC-CERT emergency number is (202) 661-8068. Under some circumstances, on-site assistance can be arranged. In addition, AIC can provide the names of experts in the conservation of paintings, paper, books, photographs, textiles, decorative arts, sculpture, and wooden artifacts as well as architectural, archaeological, natural science, and ethnographic materials. www.conservation-us.org

Alliance for Response, NYC/Heritage Preservation

Local volunteer organization focused on connecting emergency responders with representatives of the cultural heritage community. AR NYC is composed of staff from cultural institutions (security, facilities, health/safety, collections/conservation, and administration), first responders (NYPD, FDNY, NYC OEM, FEMA) and related industries (insurance/risk management, recovery companies). <http://www.heritagepreservation.org>; Alliance for Response, NYC Chair: Rebecca Fifield, Rebecca.fifield@metmuseum.org

General Information:

The following is a list of resources for dealing with materials after a disaster.

- American Institute for Conservation: Disaster Response and Recovery Guides and Information. <http://www.conservation-us.org/>
- Conservation On-Line: Disaster Preparedness and Response
- <http://cool.conservation-us.org/bytopic/disasters/>
- Heritage Preservation Resources for Response and Recovery <http://www.heritagepreservation.org/PROGRAMS/TFcurrent.html>
- MuseumSOS: <http://www.museum-sos.org/>
- Northeast Document Conservation Center: Preservation Leaflets <http://nedcc.org/resources/leaflets.list.php>
- National Park Service: Conserv O Grams http://www.nps.gov/museum/publications/consveogram/cons_toc.html
- WAAC: Salvage at a Glance Chart <http://cool.conservation-us.org/waac/ttl/>

Health and Safety

- Arts, Crafts and Theater Safety - provides health, safety, industrial hygiene, technical services, and safety publications to the arts, crafts, museums, and theater communities. <http://www.artscraftstheatersafety.org/>
- Center for Disease Control and Prevention – Emergency Preparedness and Response site <http://emergency.cdc.gov/disasters/floods/>
- Conserve-O-Gram, number 21/1, Health and Safety Hazards arising from floods <http://www.nps.gov/museum/publications/consveogram/21-01.pdf>

Disaster Aid

- "Guide to Navigating FEMA and SBA: Disaster Aid for Cultural Institutions"; downloadable from the Heritage Preservation website: <http://www.heritagepreservation.org/free>

Recovery Vendors

- **Munters Restoration Services** – details their services for the museum and library communities. [www.munters.us/en/us/Products--Services/MCS-Division/Industries/Libraries--Museums2]
- **Belfor USA** – restoration services [www.us.belfor.com]
- Lyrasis is a library based organization with a search function to find vendors to help with environmental stabilization and building clean-up [<http://www.lyrasis.org/Preservation/Search%20For%20Vendors.aspx>]

Drying/Freeze Drying Services

The companies named below provide a variety of services for emergency response including structural drying, decontamination, mold remediation, emergency power, and freeze drying.

- **American Freeze-Dry, Inc.;** PO Box 5740 1722 Hurffville Rd., Bldg. 2A Five Points Business Center Deptford NJ 08096 Telephone: 1-856-939-8160; 866-939-8160; Emergency: 609-458-0510; 856-904-4227
www.americanfreezedry.com
- **American Technologies;** 210 Baywood Ave. Orange, CA 92865 Telephone 714-283-9990 1-800-400-9353
<http://www.amer-tech.com/>
- **Belfor USA;** 185 Oakland Avenue, Suite 300 Birmingham, Michigan 48009-3433 Telephone: 1-800-856-3333 (24/7 HOTLINE) www.belfor.com
- **Blackmon-Mooring-Steamatic Catastrophe, Inc. (BMS-CAT);** International Headquarters 303 Arthur Street Fort Worth, TX 76107 Telephone: 1-817-332-2770 | 1-800-433-2940 (24/7 HOTLINE) <http://www.bmscat.com>
- **Mid West Freeze-Dry, Ltd.;** 7326 N. Central Park Skokie, IL 60076 Telephone: 1-847-679-4756
<http://www.midwestfreezedryltd.com>
- **Rapid Refile;** 7377 William Avenue Suite 100 Allentown, PA 18106 Telephone 1-877-59-RAPID (24/7 HOTLINE)
www.RapidRefile.com

Web Sites with Useful Information on Disaster Preparedness and Response

The following websites provide a broad range of information and advice on preparing for and responding to disasters. Some of these organizations, (*), also provide 24/7 telephone assistance. All website addresses and contact information were checked in March of 2011.

- ***American Institute for Conservation of Historic and Artistic Works (AIC);** Provides a wide range of information on disaster preparedness, response and salvage. www.conservation-us.org
- ***Amigos Library Services;** Disaster planning tools (more for libraries and archives) and a listing of suppliers and resources. Also provides advice by telephone: 8 a.m. - 6 p.m. CST, 1-800-843-8482, ext. 2863 or amigos@amigos.org. After business hours call 469-223-4900.
- **Council of State Archivists (COSA);** Comprises a listing of state archives that provides resources to help archival repositories salvage historical records damaged by water.
<http://www.statearchivists.org/prepare/framework/index.htm>
- **Heritage Preservation and the Heritage Emergency National Task Force;** A national non-profit dedicated to preserving the cultural heritage of the US. Heritage Preservation and FEMA co-sponsor the Heritage Emergency National Task Force. You can find many disaster preparedness as well as recovery resources on Heritage Preservation's Web site at www.heritagepreservation.org.
- **Library of Congress;** Information is offered on dealing with library materials affected by water, soot, mold and other contaminants. The site has good links and bibliographic information.
<http://www.loc.gov/preserv/familytreasures/ftpreserv.html>
- ***LYRISIS;** This site concentrates on the needs of libraries, offers a number of technical leaflets on disaster mitigation and recovery. Contact LYRISIS Preservation Field Services at 800.999.8558 for emergencies. After hours, you will be directed to an answering service; tell the operator you need to speak with someone from Preservation Field Services. <http://www.lyrasis.org/Preservation/Disaster-Resources.aspx>
- **Northeast Document Conservation Center;** NEDCC presents information in the form of several technical leaflets on disaster planning and response. The site also has a list of emergency suppliers and services. NEDCC offers emergency advice for institutions and individuals with damaged paper-based collections on a 24/7 basis at (978) 470-1010. <http://www.nedcc.org/disaster.php>
<http://www.archives.gov/preservation/disaster-response/>

Apps: Heritage Preservation's *Emergency Response and Salvage Wheel* is available free of charge on the iPhone, iPod touch, and iPad as the "ERS: Emergency Response and Salvage" app. Apple users can download this free app from the App Store. Simply search for "ERS: Emergency Response and Salvage." To download, your device must run iOS 5.1 or later. Complete technical requirements are available on the ERS page at the App Store.