



MINNESOTA HISTORICAL SOCIETY

INORGANICS: CERAMICS, GLASS, METALS, STONE

(Decorative/Historic)

Priority: These materials can be dealt with last since they generally will suffer little damage from short term exposure to water.

Handling: Move items only after a place has been prepared to receive them.

Precautions:

Packing Method: Varies with the fragility of the material; water/wetness has no bearing.

Supplies Needed

**clear water
fans
heater or hair dryer**

**portable dehumidifier
pallets or lumber**

**sponges, clean towels, paper towels
or unused newsprint**

Preparation For Drying: Rinse or sponge with clear water to remove mud or dirt before drying.

Drying Procedure: Sponges, clean towels, paper towels, or unused newsprint may be used to absorb excess moisture. Exchange wet for dry blotting material at least daily until items are dry. Check daily for mold growth.

Air dry, using fans to keep air moving without blowing directly on the pieces. Raise items off the floor on trestles, pallets, or lumber to allow air to circulate underneath the items.

Metal objects can be dried with moderate heat (90-100°F in an oven or using a heater or hair dryer.

Use portable dehumidifiers to slowly remove moisture from the area/objects. Bring relative humidity down to 50%.