



MINNESOTA HISTORICAL SOCIETY

ORGANICS: BONE, HAIR, HORN, IVORY, SHELL

- Priority: Begin drying within 48 hours to prevent mold growth.
- Handling: Move items only after a place has been prepared to receive them.
- Precautions:
- Packing Method: Individually wrap or plastic bag objects since these materials tend to split and fragment into small pieces when wet or damp.

Supplies Needed

plastic sheeting or bags **clear water** **sponges, clean towels, paper towels,**
portable dehumidifier **fans** **or unused newsprint**
pallets or lumber

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.

Air dry slowly, 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.

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