

Be Prepared!

The Iowa Conservation and Preservation Consortium, Iowa Museum Association, State Historical Society of Iowa and State Library are collaborating to develop a statewide plan to help the stewards of cultural property plan for protection and disaster recovery of collections.

Why?

To help institutions provide safe conditions for their collections through the development of emergency plans, training and expert assistance; encourage greater support for protecting cultural collections from state and local governments and from private entities; and strengthen the collaborations among those who bear responsibility for protecting our cultural heritage including library, museum, and archival staff and volunteers and state and local emergency managers.

Who?

Co-directors:

Jerome Thompson, State Historical Society of Iowa
Nancy Kraft, University of Iowa

Coordinating Committee:

Barb Corson, State Library of Iowa
Lucy David, Iowa Conservation & Preservation Consortium
Cyndi Sweet, Iowa Museum Association
Sandi Yoder, Iowa Museum Association

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How?

7-Step Plan

1. Conduct a **survey** of institutional emergency preparedness and knowledge of recovery resources.
2. **Geocode** locations of cultural repositories throughout the state and provide those locations to emergency management agencies on a state and local level.
3. **Integrate** cultural collections protection into city and county emergency plans.
4. Organize and present disaster preparedness awareness **workshops** at locations around the state.
5. Convene a statewide **conference** on disaster preparedness and response for cultural collections.
6. Develop a strategy for marshalling conservation resources existing in the state to act as “first responders”.
7. Identify and adopt a simple and broadly applicable **model plan** for writing disaster response plans.

Watch for the e-mail survey in November 2009!

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