







# WILL IT EVER BE THE SAME?

In the aftermath of a fire or flood, some of the most treasured and irreplaceable contents are vital documents, books and photos. Can they ever be the same? Today, with advances in technology and equipment, almost any type of document can be recovered.

# THE LEADER IN DOCUMENT RECOVERY

BELFOR, the worldwide leader in disaster recovery and property restoration, has more experience with all types of document treatment and drying services than any other restoration contractor. Using the most technologically advanced equipment, processes and methods – many of which are proprietary – BELFOR can recover and restore any type of document.

- archives
- audio tapes
- blueprints
- books
- compact discs
- data files
- diskettes
- drawings
- files
- film
- laser discs

- library materials
- magazines
- magnetic media
- manuscripts
- map:
- microfiche
- microfilm
- negatives
- parchment
- photographs

- plans
- slides
- special collections
- vellum
- video tapes
- vital records
- whiteprints
- x-rays

## **EXPOSED TO WATER**

BELFOR uses vacuum-freeze dryers, thermal vacuum-freeze dryers and molecular sieves specifically designed to restore books, documents and paper materials. Often, after drying is completed, no further restoration is required.



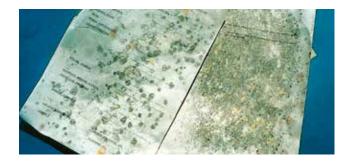
## DAMAGED BY SMOKE OR FIRE

State-of-the-art cleaning processes include particulate removal sponges, ionized air washing and a variety of deodorization techniques.



# ATTACKED BY MOULD, MILDEW OR BACTERIA

Paper materials can be sterilized using gamma radiation or electron beam radiation. Books and papers — even entire libraries — have been saved from contamination and decay using these processes.



## WHAT CAN I DO?

Timing is everything. Paper begins to deteriorate the instant that moisture is absorbed, but there are some things you can do to help minimize water damage.

#### **STOP THE WATER**

- Turn off the water source.
- If water is coming from below, carry books and documents to a higher location.
- If water is coming from above, protect books and documents from any further damage (cover with plastic sheeting, for example).

#### **KEEP THE ENVIRONMENT COOL**

 Turn the heat down. Do not begin drying the materials in place. Keep windows closed.

### STORING AND SORTING

- Wrap wet books and documents in wax paper slings.
  Do not dry.
- Segregate books and documents which are clammy, slightly moist or only wet at the corners.
- Segregate books or documents to be dried away from those that may be disposed.
- Segregate books or documents with leather or other animal hide.
- Store books in a lying position, with a maximum of 3-4 books stacked on top of one another, or in an upright position, stand them on their spine and support them at both sides.

#### **FREEZING**

 Freeze important documents or books in a freezer compartment or chest freezer. If possible, use freezer bags or wrap in wax paper.

## **BELFOR CAN HELP**

1-866-366-0493 or visit

www.belfor.com.



# THE BELFOR PROMISE

To do our very best, every time.

To ensure your best interest is always at the forefront.

To stand behind our word and

to give you our all —

every second, every minute, every day.



1.866.366.0493

**National Emergency Hotline** 

www.belfor.com