

## **Conservation Requirements for Materials Used in OMCA Galleries**

Museum collections are susceptible to damage by insect and rodent pests and we need to be careful that materials brought into our collection areas are free from potential sources of infestations. Organic materials such as textiles, wood, paper, glue, feathers, bone, and fur might contain hitchhikers such as silverfish, clothes moths, or carpet beetles, which can all silently infest our irreplaceable collections. Packing materials such as cardboard boxes and wooden crates can also harbor unwanted pests and introduce them to the museum environment.

The Museum's pest management procedures require that organic materials such as those listed below be placed in a chest freezer for one week at the Museum, at no charge.

### ***Susceptible materials requiring freezing:***

- Animal materials such as feathers, fur, skins, and bone
- Textiles containing wool, silk, or other animal-based materials
- Plant materials including soil, living and dried vegetation, and recycled wood (driftwood, crates, boxes, pallets, etc.)
- Natural history or ethnographic materials of uncertain origin

All questionable materials submitted for treatment should be stored in double-bagged in either zip lock bags or plastic bags closed with twist ties.

### **A Special Note About Flowers**

Carpet beetles (Dermestidae) are fond of flowers, and as a result, we do not allow any flowers in any form (living or dried). Paper flowers are acceptable.

### **Fair Warning**

If, during the course of the exhibit, pests are discovered in any of the submitted materials, the infested elements will be removed from the exhibition immediately.

Thank you for helping with our pest control efforts!