

Fall 2026 DLC: Understanding Weather Data & Library Disaster Preparedness Chat Log

Jenny Groome:
Hi Matt Stephen! Another bingo!

Jenny Groome:
I had a friend tell me about the site just as it went live. Hearing from retired EPA scientist let me know what a great site it is

Amanda Ros:
What's the line down the middle of the GPO room? I'm generally curious, but wrong answers could be fun too ðŸ™¸

Ashley Dahlen:
LOL! It is tape covering wires

Charlie Amiot:
Red vs Blue

Charlie Amiot:
Ashley is a liar.

Jenny Groome:
Amanda - my sisters and I had such lines in our bedroom

Cynthia Etkin:
The strip is tape covering a wire.

James Jacobs:
I see Scott Matheson is NOT drunk :-)

Amanda Ros:
LOL James

Jade Hornback:
it looks like they actually built the conference room in the middle of a road

Emm Coats:
the room was actually built on a highway

Charlie Amiot:
Emm has it.

Jenny Groome:

I wish that screen was larger. Then again, with Zoom improvements, I just might not know how to do that

Emm Coats:
they just left the ground as is

Susanne Caro:
they are playing dodge ball between presentations

Jenny Groome:
+1 Emm

Charlie Amiot:
+1 dodgeball

Jenny Groome:
meeting at DOT building?

Sara Winger:
to cross the line must you answer three questions?

Amanda Ros:
Dodgeball or Red Rover

Jenny Groome:
Red, not blue

Becki White:
Coffee versus tea.

Jenny Groome:
oops, typo

Sara Winger:
favorite color perhaps?

Susanne Caro:
Sara, or questions three. What is your favorite color?

Jenny Groome:
There's another line we can't see - divided by 4 service areas

Sara Winger:
+1@Susanne Caro exactly thank you for getting that reference

Charlie Amiot:
NSEW

Abby Oldt:
Midwest, west, south, and northeast

Sarah Erikson:
south west midwest north east

Sara Winger:
nswe

Sinai Wood:
west, south east north

Annette Meyer:
East west south midwest

Susanne Caro:
West, east southeast, northeast

Adrienne Teague:
South, West, Northeast, Midwest

Brent Abercrombie:
I knew that!

Abby Oldt:
yay thank you!

Jenny Groome:
Northeast, Midwest, south, west

Jenny Groome:
The correct answer starts with northeast!

Sinai Wood:
David Walls is now a weatherman? I don't doubt it.

Susanne Caro:
Fun fact: flooded books will break the shelves

Jenny Groome:
Oh no Susanne!

Charlie Amiot:
Always have a sump pump!

Amanda Ros:
I have a severely warped gov doc bound volume from Hurricane Katrina

Jonathan Underwood:
Cool!

Jenny Groome:
Emergency Preparedness for CT Libraries <https://libguides.ctstatelibrary.org/dld/emergency>

Jade Hornback:
my entire gov. collection is currently living in boxes due to Louisiana's last large-scale hurricane, Ida. the rebuild has been slow going

Nancy Stanwood:
we got flooded from a roofing repair issue & that's been a mess. It was not even a fraction of our collection but the workroom with special items in them got wet. It's been a trip moving everything out of the workroom too.

James Jacobs:
Thank you Ms Lindsey!!

Tiffany Panzarella:
+! James

Tiffany Panzarella:
+1

Kris Abery:
+1 James this is a great site

James Jacobs:
And this is exactly why digital preservation and the End of Term Archive is so important!!

Rebecca Holm:
Thank you!

Abby Oldt:
I think this is a little out of scope for this webinar, but figured I'd ask other librarians while we're here-- As a part of our disaster plan, I'm putting together a list of "salvage priorities" in case of a large scale disaster where not everything can be saved. Does anyone have any resources about rare/endangered/priority docs to put on there?

Jenny Groome:
Abby - I believe the Connecticut State library has such a list. I'm not on emergency response team though

Trina Magi:
How is this effort funded? (Apologies if you said at the beginning.)

Sinai Wood:
can we get a copy Jenny?

Jenny Groome:

I don't know if I can share it - Sinai can you send me email and I'll pass it along?

Sinai Wood:

will do

Tiffany Panzarella:

Are you receiving any challenges or pressure in response to these efforts?

Brylynn Ellis:

Can't hear anything at USGPO

Trina Magi:

I am so grateful for your commitment and integrity in making this information available. Thank you.

Tiffany Panzarella:

+1 Trina

James Jacobs:

Hi kitty!

Emm Coats:

i spy a kitty cat

Jenny Groome:

<https://toolkit.climate.gov/>

Jenny Groome:

Preservation Basics for State Agencies and Municipalities

<https://libguides.ctstatelibrary.org/collserv/preservationbasics>

Jessica Robinson:

Do you have resources on the possible environmental impact of data centers in communities?

Charlie Amiot:

No hurricanes in North Dakotaâ€¦

Cassandra Wenzel:

I would be curious about that too Jessica.

Jessica Robinson:

We do get tornadoes though, Charlie.

Charlie Amiot:

Oh I know. I try to avoid tornado alley!

Jenny Groome:

Where in the sire is the location filter tool? trying to find it

Sinai Wood:

Tornado Alley is shifting to the East.

Adrienne Teague:

In Tulsa, all the tornadoes. This is true Sinai

James Jacobs:

Since a lot of this conference deals with govinfo preservation (way to go climate.us!), I encourage folks to check out "œpreservation of govt information: a call to action." Please add your signature and endorse this important statement! <https://publicinformationtrust.org>

Jenny Groome:

+1 James

James Jacobs:

I know I know, broken record right?! :-)

Jenny Groome:

More like advocate

James Jacobs:

Thanks Jenny

Cassandra Wenzel:

I think we have even had tornado warnings here in Santa Fe.

Susanne Caro:

I'm just glad my collection isn't in the basement

Becki White:

At one point this year, Pennsylvania had had more tornadoes than some states in tornado alley. Go figure.

Sinai Wood:

Maybe because of the 400 mile shift, Becki.

Andie Craley:

+1 Becky - it has been really strange lately in PA.

Sarah Furger:

Incredible resource. thank you so much!

Jenny Groome:

Vermont had two consecutive years of historic flooding in Northeast Kingdom

Scott Matheson:

<https://www.vermontpublic.org/show/made-here/2026-04-13/moving-johnson-library-documentary-film>

Jenny Groome:
Thanks Scott

William Sudduth:
https://sc.edu/study/colleges_schools/artsandsciences/centers_and_institutes/hvri/people/index.php

Kim Allen:
We had a science lab overflow its sink and down thru the library ceiling it came. we were lucky we caught it when we did

Charlie Amiot:
Did the plastic sheeting come out!?

Kim Allen:
yup

Kim Allen:
and dehumidifiers everywhere

Charlie Amiot:
And how was that a good ending? BECAUSE you had plastic sheeting! Don't get caught without it.

Jenny Groome:
overheard at a library after a storm: "how did you make out yesterday?" "Great! Only one leak!"

Emm Coats:
wow, what a spooky photo

Amy Ruhe:
Yikes

Cassandra Wenzel:
Oh no, that photo is awful.

Sara Winger:
I started itching and sneezing the minute I saw it

Jenny Groome:
+1 Sara - me too! Can't look at it

Susanne Caro:
Is Monica from UNM here? She has seen some things

Becki White:

AC vents leaked right over our entire Census collection on the third floor storage; we lost the entire collection by the time we realized what was happening. :(

MONICA DORAME:

Yes I am here! :)

Charlie Amiot:

Nooo! Walk your library daily. Get paid to exercise.

Emm Coats:

had a bathroom right over my office at my last library job...

Matthew Thorenz:

+1 to Charlie

William Sudduth:

Also be very aware of any construction adjacent to the building - the university is replacing a 300 bed dorm from 1950 with a 800 bed dorm on the same footprint. Crossing legacy systems with new systems create potential problems. For example, our chill water system has been down almost 24 hours.

MONICA DORAME:

Hi Susanne...we've had a fire to deal with and flooding!

Emm Coats:

luckily there weren't many materials stored there

Cassandra Wenzel:

Wow Monica, I didn't realize that you'd had those things happen at UNM.

Nancy Stanwood:

our ERIC microfiche now has vinegar syndrome after a very humid flood time.

Abageal Jacobs:

We have had students catch issues indicating leaks- has saved many materials, including some rare collections. We encourage people to always trust their gut that something is off!

Jessica Robinson:

The construction company working on our roof have accidentally set off the fire alarm twice so right now our roofers are our most suspicious patrons. :P

Emm Coats:

u of a bowen library leaks were persistent.. i stopped being surprised by them

Jenny Groome:

HVAC? Some building too old

Nancy Stanwood:

yes!! ours has been doing that too and caused the flooding from the roof

Charlie Amiot:

This chat is like a librarian's haunted houseâ€¦

Nancy Stanwood:

yeap! no money to replace the HVAC systems.

Jenny Groome:

Ha Ha Charlie

Susanne Caro:

Hi Monica! Hope you aren't dealing with sinkholes :)

Sara Winger:

@Charlie it really is a house of horrors\

MONICA DORAME:

Here's a little snipit

https://digitalrepository.unm.edu/cgi/viewcontent.cgi?article=1000&context=ulls_disaster_recovery

Erika Westhoff:

A resource folks might find helpful is the Colorado PReP template from the Colorado Cultural & Historic Resources Task Force: <https://www.chrtaskforce.com/resources>

Nancy Stanwood:

yes! also, watch for burnt plugs!! we've found some that students were using or maybe construction people used....

Cassandra Wenzel:

Thanks for the link Monica, I'll give it a read. I hadn't realized UNM had a fire.

Jenny Groome:

BIG sheets of plastic

William Sudduth:

South Carolina will be replacing HVAC systems in 2030-2032 plus adding fire suppression systems (yep) none currently. This includes 14 air handlers to cover a 7 acre building.

Charlie Amiot:

Speaking as someone w/too many hobbies, Harbor Freight has the cheapest disaster prep supplies y'all. Not an endorsement. Just information. I'm not paid.

Amy Ruhe:

Good to know!

Michael Cerbo:

Tarps - a librarians best friend.

Grace Zayobi:

We have tarps but we couldn't find plastic sheeting big enough, we ended up cutting trash bags apart.

Grace Zayobi:

The tarps were also quite small.

Abageal Jacobs:

We made sure our boxes are close and open. One of them was duck-taped, and that added difficulty just added more to the stress

Cassandra Wenzel:

@Charlie haha love it!

MONICA DORAME:

If you have any questions Cassandra let me know. It was a lot to deal with and Dan Barkley was here at the time as Gov Docs librarian.

Charlie Amiot:

I like how Harbor Freight has many sizes and thicknesses of sheeting.

Cassandra Wenzel:

@Monica Thank you!

Jenny Groome:

Your State library might also have information resources

Sara Winger:

@Bill Sudduth, about time, that building is a mess. But maybe it's changed since I was there

Susanne Caro:

I don't think I could get into the building after hours, that is a really good point.

Jenny Groome:

electricity and water - not best combination

Scott Matheson:

Weather includes tides (seasonally high) if you're in a coastal city with old drains...

Charlie Amiot:

I apologize to everyone, I had no idea how scary this session was going to be! ;D

William Sudduth:

Also, be wary of small improvements. We replaced old lighting with LED lighting to save energy.

Energy saved, temperature in stacks got cooler and damper, mold grows on thousands of books.

Jenny Groome:

+1 Scott - YES! Possible storm surge and full moon high tides/

Kim Allen:

our books with clay coated paper tried to become bricks.

Julia Bauder:

We have a contract with a local meat locker to use their freezers in the case of a water disaster.

Ben Petersen:

Question for David. Do building renovations increase the risk to collections? How can that risk be mitigated?

Cassandra Wenzel:

@William, that's an excellent point that I wouldn't have considered.

Charlie Amiot:

SO clever Julia!

Abageal Jacobs:

We had a few that were soaked in a leak- our university archives helped immensely with recovery, and we didn't lose the few that were caught in the leak.

Cassandra Wenzel:

Thank you!

Nancy Stanwood:

We used our old coffee shop's freezer for the flooded books

William Sudduth:

I've actually decommissioned 11 ranges in my stacks due to historic leaking - that's about 1500 linear feet lost.

Susanne Caro:

What about fires and floods? I know some places have had more severe flooding in the last 10 years. In the west we are seeing more fires. I would guess the threat levels for some areas are changing.

MONICA DORAME:

A descriptive article of what happened at UNM library fire

MONICA DORAME:

https://www.tandfonline.com/doi/abs/10.1300/J118v25n03_06

David Cox:

we're dealing with annual glacial outburst flooding

Scott Matheson:

Link from Rebecca: <https://www.climate.us/media/5867>

Mary Larson:

David - You must be in Juneau?

David Cox:

yep!

William Sudduth:

So, there's climate science (macro-long term) and there is weather prediction (micro-short term) when can one inform the other. For example, Columbia SC flooding 2015 or more likely increase in high density downpours.

Mary Larson:

(I used to be in Fairbanks)

Min Shaheen:

Thank you.