Hibernation – Not Just for Bears: Putting your house museum “to bed” for the season

Historic New England White Papers

Topics for house museums include winterizing, environmental conditions, weatherization, ice dams, arborcare, drainage and many more.
<http://www.historicnewengland.org/preservation/preserving-historic-sites/property-care-white-papers>

Cleaning Supplies used by Historic New England

*Miele Vacuum* with rheostat, HEPA filter, horsehair floor brush, and attachments

*Statically charged dusting cloth* – washable and reusable: DustBunny or Cape Cod Cloth <http://www.gaylord.com/Preservation/Conservation-Supplies/Cleaning-Supplies/Dust-Bunny-Dust-Cloth/p/DB18A>


*Long-handled duster with washable cover* <https://smile.amazon.com/dp/B00940DV3K/ref=twister_B00UI9FINM?_encoding=UTF8>

*Nylon mesh screen* with twill tape edges Purchase nylon mesh screen at a hardware store and sew a cotton twill tape edging on to bind the sharp edges


*Gloves, nitrile* <http://www.gaylord.com/Preservation/Book-%26-Pamphlet-Preservation/Repair-Tools-%26-Supplies/Other-Tools-%26-Supplies/Microflex%26%23174%3B-XCEED%26%23174%3B-3-mil-Nitrile-Gloves-%28250-Pack%29/p/HYB00488>

*Water Absorbent Mats, Socks, and other products*

Deep Cleaning Products used by Historic New England

For painted wood surfaces, floors, and walls:
   SimpleGreen – 1 Tablespoon per gallon of water

For glass windows and objects:
8 parts water, 1 part vinegar, 1 part ethanol

For ceramic objects:
   Triton XL 80N – 1/2 Tablespoon per gallon of water
   MUST BE RINSED

For plexi-glass UV window covers or exhibition case bonnets:
   Brillianize® Brand

For greasy or sooty dirt:
   Odorless Mineral Spirits (Naptha)

Other Sources for Collections Information:

For information on identifying and treating museum pests: <www.museumpests.net>


Related Resources from the Connecting to Collections Care Archives

Live Question and Answer Session on Housekeeping for Historic Sites <http://www.connectingtocollections.org/recording-housekeeping/>

Stressed About Pests? Prevention, Monitoring, & Identification <http://www.connectingtocollections.org/ipmpart1/>


Mold! http://www.connectingtocollections.org/moldrecording/>