



DEPARTMENT OF THE AIR FORCE
HEADQUARTERS, 55TH WING (ACC)
OFFUTT AIR FORCE BASE, NEBRASKA

17 Apr 19

MEMORANDUM FOR OFFUTT AFB PERSONNEL

FROM: 55 AMDS/SGPB

SUBJECT: Guidance to Not Salvage Specific Flood-Damaged Items

1. On 22 March 2019, Bioenvironmental Engineering of the 55th Medical Group coordinated with the Offutt Floor Recovery Operations Center (ROC) on guidance for recovery of items left in flooded buildings.
2. Affected personnel should not attempt to salvage specific classes of items. If an item is porous and greatly and visibly damaged by flood waters, it should not be salvaged. Porous items include clothing, unsealed wood items, porous furniture, and paper products. This is based on an evaluation of possible health hazards to members.
3. It is possible that items that are non-porous or items that were not physically submerged in flood waters may be salvaged.
4. The potential health risks of salvaging affected porous items are caused by contaminants present in the floodwaters, such as sewage and other bacteria, diesel and jet fuels, and various chemicals present in the industrial workcenters on the installation. These contaminants can soak deeply into porous items as they remained submerged over the course of days.
5. If you have any questions or concerns, please call the Bioenvironmental Engineering Flight at DSN: 294-6319.

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Occupational Health Element Chief

The Sun Never Sets on the Fightin' Fifty-Fifth