



Pest Management for Collections Policy

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Introduction

To ensure the ongoing preservation of collections State Library implements the concept of Integrated Pest Management (IPM) to create an environment that is hostile to invasive pests and mould. IPM utilises knowledge of pest behaviour, the natural environment and our built environment to create preventive measures to control pests which could harm our irreplaceable collections. Utilising IPM usually means that we do not need to rely on chemicals as a means of control, which is better for the environment, our collections, staff and visitors. The primary aim of IPM is to prevent pests from entering the library, thereby reducing the threat of irreversible damage to our collections.

State Library applies five elements in its prevention and response in the Integrated Pest Management Program. The five elements are:

- **Monitoring (Prevention)**

State Library prevents the risk of pest outbreak by monitoring pest activity throughout the South Bank building. This monitoring includes the placement of more than 200 pest (sticky) traps in common pest traffic areas. These traps should not be moved or tampered with, and only handled by Preservation staff. Visitors are encouraged to report pest sightings and potential issues to staff as soon as possible. Preservation staff also check the Building Management System (BMS) which monitors critical climate controls (relative humidity, and temperature) which are specifically set to maintain a hostile environment for pests.

- **Food and beverage consumption guidelines (Prevention)**

Food and beverage consumption within State Library is the primary attractant for pests, and increases the potential risk of pest outbreak if not effectively managed. Dedicated food and beverage consumption

guidelines mitigate this risk. They inform visitors of where food and beverage consumption is permitted and the critical zones where it is restricted. See the below table for a summary of spaces where food and drink can be consumed, and where it is not permitted.

- **Housekeeping and cleaning (Prevention)**

State Library spaces are regularly cleaned to prevent the build-up of pest attractants. In areas where food and beverage consumption is permitted, containers should be covered as much as possible, and empty packaging disposed of promptly.

- **Quarantine (Prevention and Response)**

All incoming heritage collections are processed through a quarantine facility before entering the building. Our Preservation team manages the quarantine process, which includes the inspection, cleaning, and treatment of collections, utilising freezing and anoxic applications to neutralise any live or active pests, where required. This occurs before collections are cleared to enter the upper levels of the South Bank building. Any living plant life entering the building is also checked and cleared of pest activity.

- **Outbreak response (Preparedness/Reactive)**

Pest outbreaks, when they occur within a State Library building, will be responded to promptly. The response will be based on salvage procedures as outlined in the *Collections Disaster Plan*, in conjunction with quarantine treatment procedures, and in liaison with relevant pest contractors. Any quarantining of public spaces and/or collection spaces impacting service delivery will be communicated to clients as appropriate.

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Consumption of food and beverages in State Library public spaces:

Space	Use
Level 1	
Infozone, Welcome Desk, The Studio, The Corner, kuril dhagun, Knowledge Walk	Food and beverage permitted
Public Lifts	Sealed food and beverage containers permitted
Library Shop	Sealed beverages only (e.g. bottled water, sealed coffee cups)
River decks	Food and beverage permitted
Level 2	
Level 2 foyer areas	Food and beverage permitted in external areas of level 2 including Queensland Terrace
slq Auditoriums 1 and 2	Bottled water only
Information Collections / State Reference Library / Asia Pacific Design Library (Open Access Collections)	Bottled water only
Reading Room areas	Bottled water only
Red Box, Poinciana Lounge	Bottled water only
Public Meeting rooms	Bottled water only
slq Gallery	No food or beverage permitted
Level 3	
Level 3 foyer areas (including The Platform)	Food and beverage permitted
Tim Fairfax Newspaper Reading Room	Bottled water only
Music collections, Information Collections, Family History, Micrographics (Open Access Collections)	Bottled water only
Piano practice room	Bottled water only
Public Meeting Rooms	Bottled water only
Level 4	
Level 4 foyer areas, including study nooks along walkway	Food and beverage permitted
John Oxley Library Reading Room	No food or beverage permitted
John Oxley Library Quiet Study Space	Bottled water only
Public meeting rooms	No food or beverage permitted
Heritage Collections Learning Room	Food and beverage permitted
Marica Sourris and James C Sourris AM White Gloves Room	No food or beverage permitted
John Oxley Library Open Access Shelves	No food or beverage permitted
Philip Bacon Heritage Gallery	No food or beverage permitted
Australian Library of Art Showcase	No food or beverage permitted
Talbot Family Treasures Wall	No food or beverage permitted
John Oxley Library Heritage Collections Area	No food or beverage permitted
Level 5	
Level 5 foyer areas and walkways	Food and beverage permitted
The Edge	
Digital Media Lab	Bottled water only
Fabrication Lab (Clean Lab)	Food and beverage permitted
Fabrication Lab (Machine Shop)	Bottled water only
Recording Studio	Bottled water only
The Edge – all other spaces	Food and beverage permitted