

Hazardous material assistance and advice organisations

Listed here are contact details for some of the organisations that provide advice about workplace safety and about particular hazards.

Working with Asbestos Workcover NSW

Website: www.workcover.nsw.gov.au (search for 'asbestos')

Australian Maritime Safety Authority

This is a largely self-funded Commonwealth government agency that provides advice on boating and marine safety.

Phone: 02 6279 5000

Website: www.amsa.gov.au

Australian Museum

The programs of the Australian Museum in Sydney are centred on its extensive collections of natural science and cultural artefacts. Contact the Australian Museum for questions about plant and animal specimens.

Phone: 02 9320 6000

Website: www.australianmuseum.net.au

Australian War Memorial

For questions regarding munitions or military equipment, contact the Australian War Memorial or any branch of the Department of Defence.

Phone: 02 6243 4211

Website: www.awm.gov.au

Energy Australia

Energy Australia can assist with questions about electromagnetic energy and electrical safety.

Phone: 131 367

Website: www.energyaustralia.com.au

Comcare

This organisation is a useful source of information on workplace safety, accident prevention, the identification of hazards and the management of risks. Comcare is the workers compensation 'insurer' for Commonwealth Government organisations, providing safety, rehabilitation and compensation advice and services.

Phone: 1300 366 979

Website: www.comcare.gov.au

Australian Institute for the Conservation of Cultural Material (AICCM)

AICCM is the professional organisation for material conservators in Australia. They have an online register of conservators in private practice—all conservators listed have passed a stringent peer review accreditation process so are experienced in dealing with hazardous materials in collections. The AICCM website provides a wide range of related resources.

Website: www.aiccm.org.au

Department of Infrastructure and Transport

Aircraft safety questions should be directed to this Commonwealth Government department.

Website: www.infrastructure.gov.au

Fire & Rescue NSW

Fire & Rescue NSW or the Rural Fire Service can be contacted for fire safety advice and staff training in reducing fire risks. Fire & Rescue NSW can also offer assistance and advice on the disposal of hazardous materials, particularly flammable and explosive materials, including picric acid.

Phone: 02 9319 7000 (ask to have the Hazmat commander contact you)

Website: www.fire.nsw.gov.au

Hazmat Services

Hazmat is a commercial company offering specialist OHS, waste and environmental services, dealing specifically with hazardous materials and substances in the workplace. They can collect and dispose of chemicals.

Phone: 02 4961 1887

Email: info@hazmat-services.com.au

Website: www.hazmat-services.com.au

Megan Hicks

Megan Hicks was Curator of Health and Medicine at the Powerhouse Museum. Megan now works as a freelance consultant to museums.

Phone: 428 647 747

Website: megan@meganix.net

National Safety Council of Australia

NSCA is an independent, not-for-profit health and safety organisation. Contact NSCA for all kinds of occupational health and safety training.

Freecall: 1800 655 510

Website: www.nscfoundation.org.au

NSW Department of Agriculture

For questions about plant and animal specimens contact NSW Agriculture. There are a number of offices around the state.

Website: www.dpi.nsw.gov.au

National Film & Sound Archives

The National Film and Sound Archive is a Commonwealth Government cultural institution that collects and preserves Australia's moving images and sound recordings. Contact them for information on hazards associated with deteriorating film stock.

Phone: 02 6248 2000 (Canberra headquarters)

Freecall: 1800 067 274

Email: enquiries@nfsa.gov.au

Website: www.nfsa.gov.au

Pharmaceutical Services Branch, NSW Department of Health

This Branch administers the Poisons and Therapeutic Goods Act in NSW. The Duty Pharmacists will give advice on medications and drugs in your collection, including those that may be harmful, and can advise on methods of safe storage. They are able to issue an authority for a museum to be in possession of pharmaceuticals. They can also arrange for the disposal of items.

Phone: 02 9391 9944

Email: pharmserv@doh.health.nsw.gov.au

Website: <http://www.health.nsw.gov.au/pharmaceutical/pages/default.aspx>

Phone: LMB 961, North Sydney NSW 2059