

Salvaging Your Possessions: Important Tips

As you recover items from the fires, many things may look completely destroyed but if you can recognise what it was, it may be recoverable.



About 60 to 70% of items recovered from the ashes and soot of the 2003 Canberra fires were completely or partially salvageable.

Precious items even when changed can retain their significance. Surviving the fires may make them even more important to you.



If jewellery or items made from precious metals have completely melted down - the metal is still valuable and may be used to make something new!

Don't throw everything away

Bag and box things until you can speak with a conservator about what may be done.

Ask your local council for the AICCM brochure *After A Fire* for advice on:

- salvaging personal belongings
- maintaining personal safety
- handling and cleaning tips to preserve your precious possessions

OR check the AICCM website www.aiccm.org.au for more advice

Look out for AICCM Conservation Recovery Packs to help you store your damaged items in the short term. Conservation Clinics will also be visiting communities in the coming months to offer advice and conservation support.



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