

Applications Now Being Accepted!
Preservation Environment Monitoring Program
Western New York Library Resources Council

The WNYLRC Preservation Environment Monitoring (PEM) Program is a low-cost service to our members, supporting their efforts in:

- Preventative preservation for museums, libraries, and archives
- Environmental monitoring of storage and display areas
- HVAC efficiency monitoring and energy management

What is the PEM Program?

WNYLRC loans out PEM dataloggers to member organizations for a one-year period, during which time the devices measure temperature and humidity levels at five-minute intervals within a collections storage or display area the dataloggers are placed. At the end of the one-year period, the datalogger is returned to WNYLRC and the data loaded into eClimateNotebook software from the Image Permanence Institute. The data is used to produce a report that contains statistical and graphic displays of the long term effects of environmental conditions on various types of materials in the storage or display area.

What are the benefits of the PEM Program?

Several of our member organizations have benefitted from the PEM Program by receiving financial support for correcting environmental risks to collections, including private and government grants as well as support from their parent institutions. In addition, many members have become more aware of and knowledgeable about the environmental factors impacting their collections and the various types of risks associated with poor environmental conditions.

The benefits of this program are numerous. Regional institutions that are unable to purchase a PEM and Climate Notebook software due to prohibitive costs will be able to learn more about their preservation environment. The data and analysis will allow institutions to make educated, strategic decisions regarding, among other things, the storage of valuable collections and the storage of media types according to appropriate environmental conditions. The data and analysis may also be useful as institutions seek funding to improve environmental storage conditions.

How can my organization obtain one or more PEMs?

Eligibility: All collections repositories within the six-county region served by WNYLRC are eligible to participate in the PEM Program.

Applications to participate will be available from February 1, 2017 through June 1, 2017. WNYLRC Member

organizations who apply will have priority. Applicants who are selected will be notified and can expect to have their PEM datalogger(s) by July 1, 2017. Organizations can apply for more than one PEM datalogger at a time (*note: it is recommended to have one datalogger for each distinct physical storage or display area)

Loan Period: **12 months** – dataloggers will be retrieved June 30, 2018. Final reports will be provided soon after that.

Loan Fee: **\$100 per datalogger.** This fee is to offset the cost of the continued maintenance of the Preservation Environment Monitors, the subscription for the eClimateNotebook software, and the cost of staff time and materials needed to compile and produce the final report for each applicant institution.