

WATERING

Animals must be provided an adequate amount of potable water for their health and well-being. [3.10, 3.30, 3.55, 3.83, 3.106, 3.130]

**DRINKING WATER
Criteria**

Potable water provided to animals should be:

- suitable for human consumption
- clean
- non-toxic
- free of scum
- uncontaminated
- acceptable for animal husbandry needs

Tests to determine potability of water which may be requested at the inspector's discretion include, but are not limited to:

- coliform count
- toxin analysis
- mineral content

Methods of providing water to the animals include, but are not limited to:

- receptacles, such as
 - ▶ buckets
 - ▶ bowls
 - ▶ water bottles
- continuous flow systems, such as
 - ▶ gravity flow
 - ▶ Lixits
- natural sources, such as
 - ▶ rivers
 - ▶ ponds
 - ▶ streams
 - ▶ lakes

Inadequate amounts of water

Factors to consider in determining if an animal is receiving an adequate amount of water include, but are not limited to:

- ambient temperature
- animals's condition, such as

- ▶ sunken eyes
- ▶ skin tenting
- animal's behavior, such as nosing at water bowl

If you are concerned that an animal is not receiving an adequate amount of water, you should assess the animal's thirst level.

To determine if the animal is thirsty:

- have fresh water placed in the enclosure
- the animal is considered thirsty if it drinks:
 - ▶ rapidly
 - ▶ copious amounts
 - ▶ the entire amount offered and looks for more

NOTE: Most animals will investigate new items placed in the enclosure. A cursory lap or sniff of the water is not indicative of thirst.

If you determine that an animal is not being provided an adequate amount of water, cite on the inspection report under the appropriate "Watering" Section of the standards.

NOTE: Excessive thirst may also be due to a disease condition and the animal may need veterinary care.

Modification of Watering Requirements

The watering requirements detailed below may be modified:

- by the attending veterinarian, or
- as required by an IACUC-approved protocol

Species Specific

Dogs & Cats [3.10]

Water must be provided:

- at least twice a day for a minimum of 1 hour, or
- on a continuous basis

Guinea Pigs & Hamsters [3.30]

Water must be provided:

- daily, or
- through food supplements

	<p>Rabbits [3.55] Water must be provided daily.</p> <p>Nonhuman Primates [3.83] Water must be provided:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • at least twice a day for a minimum of 1 hour, or • continuously <p>Marine Mammals [3.106] Drinking water is provided through the food source.</p> <p>Sick animals may require supplemental fresh water as directed by the attending veterinarian.</p> <p>Other Animals [3.130] Water must be provided:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • continuously, or • as often as necessary for the animals' health and comfort
<p>WATERING SYSTEMS Criteria</p>	<p>Water receptacles or continuous flow systems, if used, must be:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • accessible to all animals • located to minimize contamination • kept clean and sanitary
<p>Species Specific</p>	<p>Dogs & Cats [3.10] Water receptacles must be sanitized:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • at least once every two weeks, and • before being used for another animal <p>Guinea Pigs & Hamsters [3.30] Water receptacles/continuous flow systems must be sanitized:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • at least once every two weeks, or • more often if necessary <p>Rabbits [3.55] Water receptacles/continuous flow systems must be sanitized:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • at least once every two weeks, or • more often if necessary

Nonhuman Primates [3.83]

Water receptacles/continuous flow systems must be sanitized:

- at least once every two weeks, and
- before being used for another animal