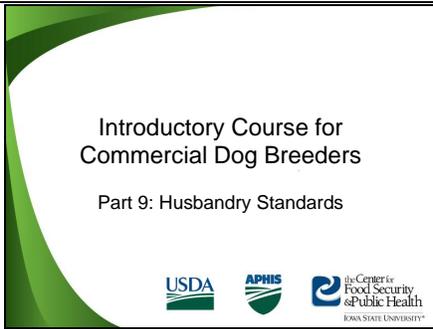


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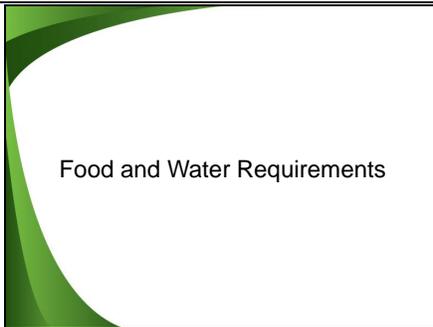
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This section will provide you with a basic overview of the Animal Welfare Act's standards for animal care and husbandry. By the end of this section you should be able to:

- Describe the minimum food and water requirements for dogs; including frequency, quality and quantity and the procedures for storing food and cleaning and sanitizing food and water receptacles.
- Describe the requirements for compatible grouping of dogs and identify specific situations where dogs must be separated.
- Explain the basic requirements of an exercise plan for dogs.
- Explain the general housekeeping and pest control requirements for licensed facilities.
- Describe cleaning and sanitization methods for primary enclosures and the frequency these procedures must be done.
- Explain the requirements for training employees and having an adequate number of employees working at the facility.

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At a minimum, dogs must be fed at least once a day. Puppies, young dogs and dogs with health conditions may require additional feedings in order to provide for adequate veterinary care. Consult your attending veterinarian for information regarding proper feeding and nutrition and document your program in the plan of veterinary care.

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**Food**

- Wholesome
- Uncontaminated
  - Rodents, insects, vermin
  - Medications, chemicals
  - Animal waste
- Palatable
- Appropriate size, consistency
- Digestible
- Nutritious

Food must be:

- Wholesome
- Uncontaminated
  - Store food to prevent access by rodents, insects and other vermin and in a location that prevents contamination from medications or other chemicals
  - Food in bowls should be free of feces and other waste
- Palatable
- Appropriate size and consistency for the animal’s age and condition
  - Examples: Puppies may need kibble that is smaller sized than that used in adult dog food. Dogs with dental problems may need soft food.
- Digestible
- Nutritious
  - To maintain the dog’s normal body condition and weight
  - Must be appropriate for the dog’s age and condition

The Food and Drug Administration (FDA) has information about selecting nutritious pet foods available on its website:

<http://www.fda.gov/AnimalVeterinary/ResourcesforYou/ucm047120.htm>

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**Food Storage**

- Keep area free of trash, junk, weeds, etc.
- Store food off floor, away from walls
- Prevent spoilage, contamination and vermin infestation



Food storage areas need to be free of trash, waste material, junk, weeds and other discarded items.

Keep food bags off the floor and away from walls to allow the area around the bags to be easily cleaned. You should be able to see under and around the bags to see if the area needs to be cleaned or have the food in storage containers that are easily moved for cleaning.

Store food in a manner to prevent spoilage, contamination and vermin (insect, rodent) infestation.

Food that is currently in use may be stored in animal areas. Store all other food away from animal areas and in accordance with the regulations.

*Photo: A. Eaglin: USDA APHIS*

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**Food Storage**

- Open bags in leakproof containers with tight fitting lids
- Store according to label directions
- Use within shelf life
- Keep away from toxic substances: medications, cleaning supplies, chemicals



Store open food bags in leakproof containers with tight fitting lids and store food according to manufacturer’s instructions on the label. For example, food requiring refrigeration must be properly stored.

If food has a limited shelf life after being opened, be sure it is used up or discarded within the appropriate amount of time. Make a note of the date opened or the “use by” date if the food is perishable after being opened. Consult product labels or a veterinarian for more information.

Keep food away from toxic substances (chemicals, cleaning agents, medications, etc.). Do not store toxic substances where food is kept or prepared.

*Photo: USDA APHIS Animal Care*

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**Storage of Toxic Supplies**

- Some supplies used at facility may be toxic to dogs:
  - Cleaning supplies/chemicals
  - Pesticides, insecticides, rodenticides
- Storage requirements:
  - NOT stored in food preparation or storage areas
  - May store in cabinets in animal areas if regularly used
    - No animal access to cabinets
    - Substances cannot leak into animal areas

Some supplies used at a facility may be toxic to dogs and cats. These include cleaning supplies and other chemicals, and pesticides or rodenticides (rat poison)

These items may not be stored in areas where food is prepared or stored.

Toxic substances required for normal husbandry may not be stored in areas where food is stored or prepared. These items may be stored in cabinets in animal areas. Make sure that animals cannot access the contents of cabinets where toxic substances are stored or the contents will not leak into animal areas.

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### Food Receptacles

- Reusable or disposable
- Accessible to all dogs in enclosure
- Choose location to minimize contamination
- Protect from rain and snow
- Keep clean and sanitary
- Prevent molding, caking, deterioration, wetting of food

Reusable or disposable: Made of durable material that can be easily cleaned and sanitized or be disposable and used only once. Food receptacles (bowls, dishes, pans, etc.) must be:

- readily accessible to all dogs
- placed in a location to minimize contamination by excreta and pests
- protected from rain and snow
- kept clean and sanitary
- maintained to prevent molding, caking, deterioration or wetting of the food

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### Reusable Food Receptacles

- Durable material
  - Metal, plastic, ceramic, concrete
  - Be cleaned and sanitized
- Replace when worn, damaged and can't be cleaned and sanitized
  - Scratched, chewed, rough surface



Must be made of durable material e.g., metal, plastic, ceramic or concrete, which can be cleaned and sanitized. Is there a list of acceptable materials? Metal, plastic, ceramic. Replace receptacles if they become damaged so they can no longer be sanitized – for example: scratched, rough surface, chewed edges.

*Photo: A. Eaglin: USDA APHIS*

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### Cleaning & Sanitizing

- Cleaning: removing food waste, mineral build up, excreta and other debris, usually with water and a cleaning agent (detergent)
- Sanitizing: reduces the number of microorganisms present on a cleaned surface.

Cleaning removes excreta, food waste and other debris from the surface of an object. Cleaning usually involves the use of water and a cleaning agent such as a detergent. Sanitization is the process of reducing the number of microorganisms present on a cleaned surface.

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### Sanitization Methods

Must use one of these three methods:

- Steam Cleaning OR
- Washing in hot (180° F water) and soap/detergent OR
- Remove all organic material and mineral buildup; wash with detergent and disinfectant solutions or combination detergent/disinfectant product; followed with clean water rinse

The Animal Welfare Regulations require that one of the following methods be used to sanitize food receptacles. Sanitization methods: (must use one of these)

1. Steam cleaning OR
2. Washing in hot (180 degree F) water and soap or detergent OR
3. Removing all organic materials and mineral buildup and washing all surfaces with appropriate detergent and disinfectant solutions or by using a combination of detergent/disinfectant product to provide sanitization and following up with a clean water rinse

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### How Often?

- At least once every 2 weeks, or more often as needed to prevent accumulation of :
  - Dirt,
  - Debris,
  - Food waste,
  - Excreta,
  - Algae,
  - Mineral deposits,
  - Disease hazards,
- Before using to feed a different dog or group of dogs

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### Water

- If water not continuously available,
  - Must be offered as often as necessary for dogs' health and well-being
- Dogs' water requirements may vary due to:
  - Temperature and humidity
  - Animal's physical condition: young, old, nursing, ill, etc.
  - Discuss questions with veterinarian

If potable (water fit for human consumption) water is not continuously available to dogs, water must be offered as often as necessary to ensure the dogs' health and well-being.

The amount of water a dog needs may vary depending on a variety of factors, including:

- Temperature and humidity in the enclosure
- Animal's physical condition – old, young, nursing, ill, etc.

Note: Excessive thirst may be a sign of a medical condition. Any concerns about the quantity of water (too much or too little) an animal drinks should be addressed to the attending veterinarian.

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### Minimum Water Requirement

- Minimum Requirement:
  - At least 2 times a day, for at least 1 hour, unless intake restricted by veterinarian

Water must be offered at least 2 times a day for at least 1 hour at a time, unless water intake is restricted by the attending veterinarian.

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### Water Supply and Quality

<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Supply:<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Adequate, running, potable</li><li>- Meet dogs' needs and for cleaning and husbandry</li></ul></li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Quality:<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Suitable for human consumption</li><li>- Clean</li><li>- Non-toxic</li><li>- Uncontaminated</li></ul></li></ul>
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#### Water Supply

Housing facilities must have adequate running, potable water to meet the dogs' drinking needs and for cleaning and other husbandry needs.

#### Water Quality

Dogs must be provided with water

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

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### Water Receptacles

- Bowls, buckets, self waterers

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### Cleaning & Sanitizing

- Cleaning: removing food waste, mineral build up, excreta and other debris, usually with water and a cleaning agent (detergent)
- Sanitizing: reduces the number of microorganisms present on a cleaned surface.



Cleaning removes excreta, food waste and other debris from the surface of an object. Cleaning usually involves the use of water and a cleaning agent such as a detergent.

Sanitization is the process of reducing the number of microorganisms present on a cleaned surface. One of the following sanitization methods must be used to sanitize food receptacles:

*Photo: D. Bickett-Weddle: CFSPH*

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### Sanitization Methods

Must use one of these three methods:

- A. Steam Cleaning OR
- B. Washing in hot (180° F water) and soap/detergent OR
- C. Remove all organic material and mineral buildup; wash with detergent and disinfectant solutions or combination detergent/disinfectant product; followed with clean water rinse

The Animal Welfare Regulations require that one of the following methods be used to sanitize water receptacles.

Sanitization methods: (must use one of these)

1. Steam cleaning OR
2. Washing in hot (180 degree F) water and soap or detergent OR
3. Removing all organic materials and mineral buildup and washing all surfaces with appropriate detergent and disinfectant solutions or by using a combination of detergent/disinfectant product to provide sanitization and following up with a clean water rinse

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### How often?

- At least once every 2 weeks, or more often as needed to prevent accumulation of :
  - Dirt
  - Debris
  - Food waste
  - Excreta
  - Algae
  - Mineral deposits
  - Disease hazards
- Before using with different dog or group of dogs

Water receptacles must be kept clean and sanitized and must be cleaned and sanitized before being used by a different dog or a different social grouping of dogs.

Sanitize water receptacles at least once every two weeks or more often as needed to prevent accumulations of dirt, debris, food waste, excreta, algae, mineral deposits, or other disease hazards

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### Compatible Grouping

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### Compatible Grouping

Regularly observe dogs for signs of incompatible grouping:

- Overly aggressive/vicious
- Wounds: head, neck, face and legs
- Ruffled or thin hair coat, scratches or bites
- Restricted access: food or water
- Sick or weak dog in same unit as healthy dogs



Dogs housed together must be compatible. Regularly observe dogs interacting with other dogs in their enclosures for signs of incompatibility.

Some signs that dogs housed together may be incompatible include: Overly aggressive or vicious behavior by an animal toward others in the enclosure

Evidence of wounds, especially on the legs and around the neck and face

Ruffled or thin hair coat with signs of skin trauma (e.g., scratches or bites)

An animal's access to food, water and/or shelter is restricted by another

animal

A sick or weak dog in the same unit as healthy dogs, especially in the case of a puppy that is smaller or weaker than its littermates.

*Photo: A. Eaglin: USDA:APHIS*

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### Specific Grouping Requirements

These dogs may NOT be housed together:

1. Females in heat with male dogs, except for breeding
2. Vicious or overly aggressive dogs housed separately
3. Puppies less than 4 months with adults, except dam or foster dam

The Animal Welfare Act Regulations state that the following groups of dogs may NOT be housed in the same primary enclosure.

1. Females in heat (estrus) may not be housed in the same primary enclosure with males except for breeding purposes.
2. Any dog with a vicious or overly aggressive disposition must be housed separately.
3. Puppies 4 months of age or younger may not be housed in the same primary enclosure with adult dogs other than their dam or foster dam.

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### Specific Grouping Reqs. (cont'd)

4. Dogs with other animal species unless compatible
5. Isolate dogs with or suspected of having contagious disease from healthy dogs
6. No more than 12 adult nonconditioned dogs in same primary enclosure

4. Dogs may not be housed in the same primary enclosure with any other species of animals unless they are compatible.
5. Dogs that have a contagious disease or are suspected of having a contagious disease must be isolated from healthy animals in the colony, as directed by the attending veterinarian. When an entire group or room of animals is known or believed to be exposed to an infectious agent, the group may be kept intact during the process of diagnosis, treatment or control.
6. No more than 12 adult nonconditioned dogs may be housed in the same primary enclosure

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### Exercise Requirements

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### Exercise Requirements

- Required by regulations:
  - Dogs over 12 weeks must have opportunity to exercise
  - Written plan approved & signed by attending veterinarian
  - Available for Inspector's review



AWA regulations require that dogs over 12 weeks of age must have the opportunity to exercise. The facility must have a written exercise plan approved and signed by the attending veterinarian. The plan must be available for review by the Inspector. In some cases, a cage may have enough space to satisfy the exercise requirement. Additional information about the exercise requirements, space requirements and developing an exercise plan can be found in the AWA regulations and the Exercise Plan segment of this training course.

*Photo: A. Eaglin:USDA APHIS*

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## Cleaning and Sanitizing

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## General Housekeeping

- Area around facility:
  - Clean, good repair
  - No trash, waste, weeds, etc.
- Housing Units:
  - Neat, no clutter



The areas around housing facilities, including buildings and surrounding grounds must be kept clean and in good repair. Remove trash, junk, waste products and other discarded matter from the premises and control weeds, grass and bushes. Housing units must be neat and free of clutter, equipment, furniture and stored material. Items used in cleaning and husbandry may be kept in housing areas. This protects the animals from injury, makes good husbandry practices easier and helps reduce or eliminate breeding and living areas for rodents, pests or other vermin.

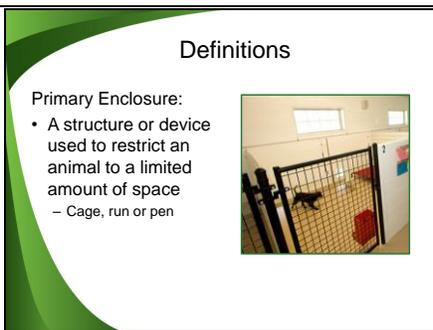
*Photos: A. Eaglin: USDA APHIS*

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## Cleaning Primary Enclosures

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## Definitions

- Primary Enclosure:
- A structure or device used to restrict an animal to a limited amount of space
    - Cage, run or pen



The Regulations define a Primary enclosure as a structure used to restrict an animal to a limited amount of space. For dogs, examples would be a room, cage, run or pen.

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## Definitions

- Hard surfaces:
- Sealed Concrete
  - Sealed Wood
  - Ceramic Tile
  - Stainless steel or other metal
  - Glass board
  - Formica



Hard Surfaces include:

- Sealed concrete
- Sealed wood
- Ceramic tile
- Stainless steel or other metals
- Glass board
- Formica

*Photo: A. Eaglin: USDA APHIS*

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**Definitions**

Non-hard/Porous surfaces:

- Dirt
- Sand
- Gravel
- Grass



Non-hard/Porous surfaces include: dirt, sand, gravel, grass  
*Photo: A Eaglin: USDA*

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**Daily Cleaning**

- Remove feces, urine, food waste from primary enclosures daily

Feces, urine and food waste must be removed daily from inside primary enclosures.

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**Animal Contact Areas**

Cleaning Animal Contact Areas:

- Daily spot clean all hard surfaces where dogs have contact
  - Sanitize at least every 2 weeks or more often if necessary
- Daily spot clean all non-hard or porous surfaces
  - Rake or spot clean frequently to ensure dogs can avoid contact with excreta
  - Replace contaminated material when raking & spot cleaning not sufficient

Spot clean all hard surfaces that dogs come into contact with on a daily basis. Sanitize these surfaces at least every two weeks, or more often if necessary to minimize disease hazards.

Floors made of dirt, sand, gravel, grass, absorbent bedding, or other similar material must be spot cleaned on a daily basis. These surfaces must be raked or spot-cleaned often enough to ensure that all animals in the enclosure can avoid contact with the excreta. Contaminated material must be replaced when raking and spot cleaning are not sufficient to prevent or eliminate odors, or infestations of insects, pests or vermin.

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**Other Surfaces**

- Clean and sanitize when necessary to meet husbandry standards and practices
- Remove feces, urine and food waste from pans or ground below primary enclosures as necessary to prevent accumulation, keep dogs clean and reduce pests, odors and disease risk

Cleaning other surfaces –

All other surfaces must be cleaned and sanitized when necessary to satisfy generally accepted husbandry standards and practices. Feces, urine and food waste located in pans or on the ground underneath primary enclosures must be removed as often as necessary to prevent accumulations, keep the dogs clean, and reduce insects, pests, odors and the risk of disease.

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**Cleaning Methods:  
Primary Enclosures**

- Steam and Water Cleaning:
  - Remove dogs from enclosure, or ensure they won't be harmed, wet, or distressed
  - Protect animals in other enclosures from water and contamination
  - Clean pans and areas under enclosures as necessary to prevent waste accumulation
  - After cleaning, remove standing water

**Cleaning Methods for Primary Enclosures**

Steam and water cleaning procedures for primary enclosures:  
(hosing, flushing or other methods)

Remove the dogs from the enclosure unless the enclosure is large enough to ensure they will not be harmed, wetted, or distressed during the process

Remove standing water from the enclosure after cleaning

Protect animals in other primary enclosures from contamination by water or waste during cleaning.

Clean pans under primary enclosures with grill-type floors and ground areas under raised runs with mesh or slatted floors as often as

necessary to prevent the accumulation of wastes and to prevent the accumulation of feces and food waste and to reduce disease hazards, pests, insects and odors.

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### Sanitizing Primary Enclosures

- Clean and sanitize primary enclosures, food and water receptacles:
  - As often as needed to prevent accumulation of dirt, waste, debris, and other disease hazards: **at least once every 2 weeks**
  - Before using with different dogs

All primary enclosures and food and water receptacles;

- must be cleaned and sanitized before they can be used to house, feed or water another dog or social grouping of dogs.
- must be sanitized at least once every 2 weeks or more often as needed to prevent accumulation of dirt, debris, food waste, excreta, algae, mineral deposits, other disease hazards.

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### Sanitizing Hard Surfaces

Use one of these methods:

- A. Steam Cleaning OR
- B. Washing in hot (180° F water) and soap/detergent OR
- C. Remove all organic material and mineral buildup; wash with detergent and disinfectant solutions or combination detergent/disinfectant product; followed with clean water rinse



The Animal Welfare Regulations require that one of the following methods be used to sanitize primary enclosures. Sanitization methods: (must use one of these)

1. Live steam under pressure OR
2. Washing in hot (180 degree F) water and soap or detergent, as with a mechanical cage washer OR
3. Removing all organic materials and mineral buildup and washing all surfaces with appropriate detergent and disinfectant solutions or by using a combination of detergent/disinfectant product to provide sanitization and following up with a clean water rinse

*Photo: Dani Ausen:CFSPH*

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### Sanitizing Non-hard/Porous Surfaces

- Gravel, sand, grass, absorbent bedding
  - Remove contaminated materials as necessary
  - Direct sunlight aids in disinfection

Pens, runs and outdoor housing areas that use material that cannot be sanitized using the methods provided above (gravel, sand, grass, earth or absorbent bedding):  
Must be sanitized by removing the contaminated materials as necessary to prevent odors, diseases, pest, insects, and vermin infestation. Exposure to direct sunlight will aid in disinfecting the area.

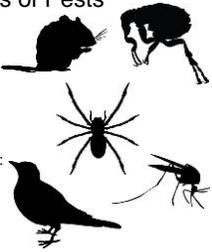
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### Pest Control

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### Types of Pests

- Mammals:
  - Rats, mice, moles
- Birds:
  - Starlings, pigeons, sparrows
- Ectoparasites:
  - Fleas, ticks, mites, lice
- Arthropods (insects):
  - Flies, mosquitoes, gnats
- Arachnids:
  - Spiders, scorpions



Types of pests that are of concern in commercial dog breeding facilities include, but are not limited to:

Mammals: rats, mice, moles  
 Birds: starlings, pigeons, sparrows  
 Ectoparasites: fleas, ticks, mites, lice  
 Arthropods (insects): flies, mosquitoes, gnats  
 Arachnids: spiders, scorpions  
*Illustrations: Andrew Kingsbury: CFSPH*

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### Pest Control Program

- Have and maintain an effective program to control:
  - Insects
  - Ectoparasites
  - Birds
  - Mammals
- Discuss insect and ectoparasite control with your veterinarian



The regulations require that a licensee establish and maintain an effective program for controlling insects and external parasites, and birds and mammals that are pests. Such a program aids in promoting the overall health and well-being of the dogs.

Discuss the program to control insects and ectoparasites with your attending veterinarian and include the program in the written plan of veterinary care.  
*Photo: D. Bickett-Wedde: CFSPH*

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### Signs of Pests

- Observe animals and facilities for signs of pests
- Common signs of pests:
  - Seeing the pest (rodents, insects, birds)
  - Finding Droppings (rodents, fleas, birds)
  - Other evidence (chewed surfaces, feathers, egg packets)
  - Effects on animals (itching, sores, hair loss)

Observe your dogs and facilities for signs of pests. Common signs include:

Seeing the pest: mammals, birds, insects (flies, ticks), arachnids (spiders, scorpions)  
 Seeing droppings: mammals, birds, insects (fleas)  
 Physical evidence: chewed surfaces (rodents), feathers or nests (birds), egg packets (insects, arachnids)  
 Effects on animals: Animals scratching, twitching, swatting (fleas, flies); open sores, hair loss

The following is a list of signs which may indicate the presence of pests. If signs of a pest are seen, further investigation should be done to determine if pests are present. If pests are suspected, control measures should be implemented.

- Mammals
- Seeing the pest
  - Seeing droppings
  - Rodent holes
  - Chewed insulation on floors, walls, ceilings and other surfaces
- Birds
- Seeing the pest
  - Seeing droppings
  - Nests
  - Feathers
- Ectoparasites
- Animals scratching
  - Open sores and areas of hair loss
- Arthropods
- Seeing the pest
  - Seeing droppings
  - Seeing egg packets
  - Food covered with flies

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Sores on the animal due to flies or other insects  
Animals swatting, twitching, scratching  
Arachnids  
Seeing the pest  
Webs

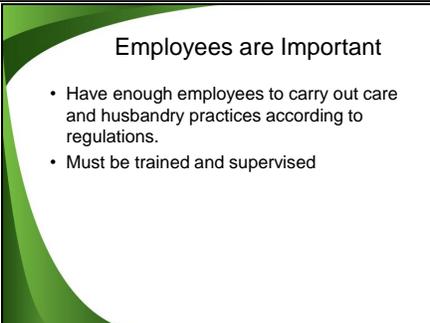
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Employees

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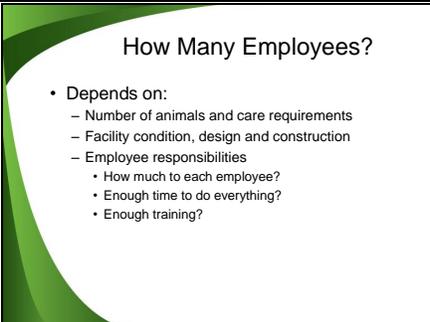
**Employees are Important**

- Have enough employees to carry out care and husbandry practices according to regulations.
- Must be trained and supervised

Having enough trained employees is an important part of keeping a facility in compliance with the regulations. Under the AWA regulations, each licensee must have a sufficient number of employees to carry out the care and husbandry practices required by the regulations.

Employees need to be trained to complete assigned tasks to the levels established by the regulations. They must be supervised by someone who is knowledgeable and experienced in the care and husbandry of dogs to the level that they can train and supervise others. Employers are responsible for ensuring that supervisors and employees are about to perform their jobs to meet or exceed the standards set in the regulations.

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**How Many Employees?**

- Depends on:
  - Number of animals and care requirements
  - Facility condition, design and construction
  - Employee responsibilities
    - How much to each employee?
    - Enough time to do everything?
    - Enough training?

The number of employees needed for a facility will depend on a number of factors, including

- The number of animals
  - Maintenance requirements for the animals
  - Facility design and construction – some types of facilities (e.g., all wood, require more maintenance than others)
  - Facility condition
  - Employee responsibilities
    - What responsibility and how much is given to a particular employee?
    - Do employees have enough time to perform all their assigned tasks to the required level?
    - Do employees have the training to perform the tasks to the required standard?
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### Hint

- If repeatedly out of compliance on husbandry issues, ask if there are enough people to get everything done?

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### Conclusion

You should now be able to:

- Describe minimum food and water requirements for dogs
- Compatibility requirements
- Exercise plan requirement
- General housekeeping and pest control
- Cleaning and sanitization procedures
- Employee responsibilities and training

This presentation has provided you with a basic background into the care and husbandry standards for commercial dog kennel licensees. You should now be able to:

- Describe minimum food and water requirements for dogs; including frequency, quality and quantity of food, the procedures for storing food and cleaning and sanitizing food and water receptacles.
- Describe the requirements for compatible grouping of dogs and identify specific situations where dogs must be separated.
- Explain the basic requirements of an exercise plan for dogs.
- Explain general housekeeping and pest control requirements for licensed facilities.
- Describe the cleaning and sanitization methods for primary enclosures and the frequency these procedures must be done.
- Explain employee training and supervision requirements.

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### Questions?



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### Acknowledgments

This presentation was prepared by the Center for Food Security and Public Health, Iowa State University through a cooperative agreement with USDA APHIS Animal Care.

