

<b>SHELTER FROM THE ELEMENTS</b>	Animals must be provided with adequate shelter from the elements at all times. [3.3, 3.4, 3.26, 3.51, 3.76, 3.102, 3.126]
<b>Criteria</b>	<p>Adequate shelter must:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• protect the animal's health and well-being</li> <li>• allow all animals in the enclosure to have access to the shelter at the same time</li> <li>• protect the animal from adverse weather conditions</li> </ul>
<b>Species Specific</b>	<p><b>Dogs &amp; Cats</b></p> <p><i>Sheltered Housing</i> [3.3(d)] Sheltered portion of the sheltered facility must be large enough to allow each animal to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• sit</li> <li>• stand</li> <li>• lie down, and</li> <li>• turn around freely</li> </ul> <p><i>Outdoor Housing</i> [3.4(b)] Outdoor facilities must contain one or more sheltered structures.</p> <p>The sheltered structure must:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• be accessible to each animal [3.4(b)]</li> <li>• be large enough to allow all animals to simultaneously sit, stand, and lie in a normal manner and turn about freely [3.4(b)]</li> <li>• have a roof, floor, and sides [3.4(b)]</li> <li>• provide adequate protection/shelter from cold &amp; heat [3.4(b)(1)]</li> <li>• provide protection from direct rays of the sun [3.4(b)(2)]</li> <li>• provide protection from the direct effects of wind, rain or snow [3.4(b)(2)]</li> <li>• have a wind/rain break at the entrance [3.4(b)(3)]</li> <li>• provide a way for the animal to keep warm, such as: [3.4(b)(4)]</li> </ul>

- ▶ clean, dry bedding when ambient temperature is below 50° F
  - R additional clean, dry bedding must be added when ambient temperature is 35° F or lower
- ▶ alternate methods for keeping animals warm include, but are not limited to:
  - R heat lamp (properly working)
  - R heating pad (properly working)
  - R insulated shelter structure

NOTE: Ambient temperature is the temperature of the air immediately surrounding the animal. The best method to obtain the ambient temperature is to:

1. confine the animal inside the shelter
2. wait 15 minutes
3. measure the air temperature in the shelter (If using a mercury thermometer, wait approximately 15 minutes for it to stabilize)

Unacceptable shelter structures include, but are not limited to:

- metal barrels
- cars
- refrigerators
- freezers

One or more separate outside areas of shade must:

- be provided in addition to the shelter structure.
- be large enough to contain all the animals in the enclosure
- protect the animal from the direct rays of the sun

### **Guinea Pigs**

*Outdoor Housing* [3.27(b)]

Guinea pigs must **not** be housed outdoors UNLESS

- the outdoor facility is located in an appropriate climate, and
- prior approval has been obtained from the Animal Care Deputy Administrator

The request to house a guinea pig(s) outdoors must:

- be in writing

- contain a reason/justification for housing the animal outdoors
- contain a description of how the following criteria will be met:
  - ▶ outdoor housing facility will have a temperature range of 45° - 85° F
  - ▶ guinea pig will be acclimated to whatever temperatures it will be encountering within the above range
  - ▶ facility has a means of monitoring and recording the temperature in the animal area
  - ▶ facility has a written procedure delineating what shelter or care is available when the ambient temperature exceeds the permissible range, e.g.:
    - R ventilation and/or shade in hot weather
    - R shelter and/or bedding in cold weather
  - ▶ animal will be adequately protected from predators
- be submitted to the appropriate Regional Office

The variance will be periodically reviewed and may be rescinded if:

- the above conditions are not met
- the health and well-being of the guinea pig is in danger

**Hamsters [3.27(a)]**

Hamsters **MUST NOT** be housed outdoors under any circumstances or in any conditions.

**Rabbits**

*Outdoor Housing [3.52]*

Sufficient shade must be provided to protect the animal from the direct rays of the sun. [3.52(a)]

If ambient temperature exceeds 90° F, artificial cooling, such as a fan or sprinkler system, must be provided. [3.52(a)]

Access to shelter must be provided:

- to keep animal dry during rain and snow [3.52(b)]
- when ambient temperature falls below 40° F [3.52(c)]

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**Nonhuman Primates**

*Sheltered Housing* [3.77]

Shelter structures must:

- protect the animal from adverse weather conditions [3.77(d)]
- provide access and protection for all the animals in the enclosure [3.77(e)]

Multiple shelter structures must be provided in enclosures with aggressive or dominant animals. [3.77(e)]

*Outdoor Housing* [3.78]

Shelter structures must:

- protect the animal from adverse weather conditions [3.78(b)]
- provide access and protection for all the animals in the enclosure [3.78(c)]
- provide heat to prevent the temperature inside the structure from falling below 45° F EXCEPT as directed by the attending veterinarian [3.78(b)]

Multiple shelter structures must be provided in enclosures with aggressive or dominant animals. [3.78(c)]

**Marine Mammals**

Shelter must be provided from direct sunlight. [3.103(b)]

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