

IACUC Policy – Canine Exercise Program

General

The Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service, United States Department of Agriculture, Animal Welfare Standards, 9CFR Part 3, paragraph 3.8, requires a canine exercise plan. As a registered research facility, Purdue University is required to document a plan for the exercise of dogs.

There are a number of locations at Purdue University suitable for the housing of dogs. These locations include the Animal Holding Facility (AHF), Pre-Clinical Research Laboratory (PCRL), Veterinary Teaching Hospital Blood Donor area (VTH) and the Purdue University Fort. Wayne Campus Life Sciences Research Center (LSRC). Lynn Hall Basement (LYNN) has an area for temporary holding of animals for non to minimally invasive laboratory sessions - but not housing Purdue owned animals. The LYNN location is used for housing non-Purdue owned humane society dogs and cats for spay-neuter.

Exercise Plan

The opportunity for exercise is accomplished in a variety of ways including: (1) individual housing of dogs in enclosures that are at least twice the required minimum size; (2) group housing of dogs in an area that provides the minimum required square footage for each individual dog; and (3) allowing the dogs access to open areas on a daily basis. In some instances, e.g., blood donor and College of Veterinary Medicine teaching / class dogs, the animals are walked outdoors on a regular schedule.

As such:

1. Any dog that is **housed individually** in a primary enclosure (pen, run or cage) that provides at least twice the required floor space for that dog¹ does not require additional opportunity for exercise.
2. Any dog that is **housed individually** in a primary enclosure (pen, run or cage) that provides less than twice the required floor space for that dog¹ must be provided the opportunity for exercise. This opportunity for exercise is to be provided by animal facility personnel during the period animal husbandry activities are being performed by releasing the animal from its enclosure and allowing the dog to roam freely for at least 10 minutes in an open area. In most cases this open area is the open, nonenclosure area, including any open, empty runs of the animal housing room. If possible, two or more compatible animals are released together.

As most dogs are housed individually in enclosures that provide at least twice the required floor space, and releasing the animal from the enclosure into the room is part of the normal husbandry operating procedure, documentation of daily release at the time of husbandry activities is not recorded in the animal room log or other records. If for some reason animals in a room are not released by the animal facility personnel for the opportunity for exercise, any dog that must be provided the opportunity for

¹ Required floor space per dog is determined by calculating the mathematical square of the sum of the length of the dog (as measured from the tip of the nose to the base of the tail, plus 6 inches). Divide the mathematical square by 144 to obtain required floor space in square feet. The attached chart (USDA STANDARDS FOR HOUSING / EXERCISE) provides the required floor space in square feet for dogs of various length as measured from the tip of the nose to the base of the tail. Measuring the dog and referring to the chart will provide the square footage for either item 1, 2 or 3 of the Exercise Plan.

exercise (based on the dog's length and enclosure size) will still be released and such release documented if it is the only animal released.

3. All dogs **housed in compatible groups** in primary enclosures (pens, runs or cages) that provide in total at least 100% of the required floor space for each dog¹ do not require additional opportunity for exercise. In essence, if dogs are group housed, the requirement for opportunity for exercise is met by virtue of providing at least the minimum square footage required. Similar to individually housed dogs, while the opportunity for exercise may not be required for every group, the opportunity for exercise is routinely provided for each group on a daily basis by releasing the dogs from the enclosure and allowing the dogs to roam freely at the time of husbandry activities. In some instances, more than one dog may be released to socialize. Before releasing, the dogs should have been regularly observed interacting with other dogs in their enclosures for signs of incompatibility.

Note to staff: If more than one dog is released into the area at a time, and should an altercation between the dogs take place, exercise caution in attempting to separate the dogs. You should first attempt "self-generated noise" such as loud yelling. Other methods to attempt separation might include:

- An Air Horn as the blast of an air horn usually startles the dogs enough to break them apart. It's reportedly a common tool seen at animal shelters.
- A Hose as spraying the dogs will often startle them enough to break them apart.

If you should sustain a bite, all injuries, regardless of how slight, must be reported to your supervisor immediately, but no longer than 24 hours after the injury. Your supervisor will contact Purdue REM to file a First Report of Injury.

4. Additional exercise may be provided by encouraging play, walking outside the animal housing facility on a leash or similar activities, as approved by the investigator / course instructor. While such additional exercise is encouraged, it will not eliminate the requirement for exercise as noted above.
5. A dog may be exempt from the requirement for exercise only when it is determined that providing exercise would be inappropriate for reasons of health, condition or well being. All exemptions must be approved and documented by the Attending Veterinarian. The exemption is reviewed at least every 30 days unless the condition is permanent.
6. Dogs may also be exempt from the requirements for exercise when the investigator documents scientific reasons for an exemption in the research proposal. In such cases, the exemption is reviewed and approved by Purdue Animal Care and Use Committee and the Attending Veterinarian. The Attending Veterinarian documents the exemption for the animal(s). The exemption is reviewed not less than annually.
7. In addition to exercise requirements, any dog individually housed in a facility without sensory contact with other dogs (e.g., in a room alone) is provided positive physical contact from animal facility personnel for at least 15 minutes each day. Positive physical contact consists of petting, stroking, encouraging play and / or providing verbal communication to the animal. Documentation that such positive physical contact was provided is placed in the animal room log or other readily accessible record after each episode.

Facilities

Each facility has a variety of enclosures. Each facility may also house dogs of various lengths. The maximum anticipated length of dogs housed in a facility would be difficult to project or restrict.

For this reason, each facility's dog housing areas have been measured and listed (see attachments).

These lists should be utilized to assist in determining the regulatory need for the opportunity for exercise. By measuring the dog(s), referring to the attached USDA STANDARDS FOR HOUSING / EXERCISE chart and the facility list, the regulatory need to provide the opportunity for exercise can be determined.

For example, assume we have dogs that measures 35 inches in length. If this dog is housed individually, using the attached USDA STANDARDS FOR HOUSING / EXERCISE chart, this dog needs to be provided 23.4 square feet to be exempt from the requirement to provide exercise. If this dog is housed in AHF, Room 1110, where each unit provides 24.0 square feet, provision of an opportunity for exercise is **not mandatory**.

Similarly, if two 35-inch dogs are housed in this same unit, they each must be provided 11.7 square feet to be exempt from the requirement to provide exercise. As the unit provides 24.0 square feet, provision of an opportunity for exercise is again not mandatory as, in total, at least 100% of the required floor space for each dog ($11.7 + 11.7 = 23.4$ total) is being provided.

If a dog measuring 35 inches is housed individually in one of the pens in AHF Room 1114, the dog **must** be released for the opportunity to exercise as the pen provides only 19.0 square feet of floor space. This is less than the 23.4 square feet required for an individual dog to be exempt from the requirement to provide exercise.

In addition, it should be noted that two 35-inch dogs cannot be housed together in this pen as each dog must be allowed a minimum of 11.7 square feet, the minimum housing space required for dogs of this length. The pen would have to provide 23.4 square feet just to house two 35-inch dogs and the pen provides only 19.0 square feet.

USDA STANDARDS FOR HOUSING / EXERCISE

<u>Length of Dog (inches)</u>	Group Housed Dogs: Minimum Square Foot Requirement per Dog to Meet Exercise Standard*	Single Housed Dog: Minimum Square Foot Requirement to Meet Exercise Standard
20	4.7	9.4
21	5.1	10.2
22	5.4	10.8
23	5.8	11.6
24	6.3	12.6
25	6.7	13.4
26	7.1	14.2
27	7.6	15.2
28	8.0	16.0
29	8.5	17.0
30	9.0	18.0
31	9.5	19.0
32	10.0	20.0
33	10.6	21.2
34	11.1	22.2
35	11.7	23.4
36	12.3	24.6
37	12.8	25.6
38	13.4	26.8
39	14.1	28.2
40	14.7	29.4
41	15.3	30.6
42	16.0	32.0
43	16.7	33.4
44	17.4	34.8
45	18.1	36.2
46	18.8	37.6
48	20.3	40.6
49	21.0	42.0
50	21.8	43.6
51	22.5	45.0
52	23.4	46.8
53	24.2	48.4
54	25.0	50.0
55	25.8	51.6
56	26.7	53.4
57	27.6	55.2
58	28.4	56.8
59	29.3	58.6
60	30.3	60.6
61	31.2	62.1

*Note: The square foot requirement listed is also the minimum housing space required for a dog of this length. A dog cannot be housed in a space less than listed unless reviewed and authorized by the Purdue Animal Care and Use Committee (PACUC)

ANIMAL HOLDING FACILITY (AHF)

<u>Room# / Run#</u>	<u>Length x Width (inches)</u> (each unit is 67.5 in. high except 1126 is 90 in. high)	<u>Square Feet</u>
1126 (each enclosure)	50 x 90	31.25
1114A (each enclosure)	38 x 72	19.0
1110 (per mobile unit*)	48 x 72	24.0
1106 (per mobile unit*)	48 x 72	24.0
1102 (per mobile unit*)	48 x 72	24.0
1098 (per mobile unit*)	48 x 72	24.0
1094 (per mobile unit*)	48 x 72	24.0

* Each unit can be accessed from adjacent unit via a sliding door. Most rooms would allow for putting up to 5 or 6 mobile units side-by-side. I.e., more than one unit can be used for a dog if size of dog requires more space than that listed per mobile unit.

VETERINARY TEACHING HOSPITAL (VTH) (currently not used for Purdue owned dogs)

(Blood Donor Dogs)		
<u>Room# / Run#</u>	<u>Length x Width (inches)</u> (each unit is high)	<u>Square Feet</u>
G367C / A	54 x 54	20.2
G367C / B	54 x 54	20.2
G367C / C	62 x 63	27.1
G367C / D	62 x 63	27.1

PRE-CLINICAL RESEARCH LABORATORY (PCRL)

<u>Room# / Run#</u>	<u>Length x Width (inches)</u>	<u>Square Feet</u>
1236A&B mobile units* (each unit is 67.5 high)	48 x 72	24.0
1236A&B Priefert Pen (each pen is 76.5 high)	56.5 x 61.25	24.0
Post-Op Recovery Cages	28 x 45	8.75

*Each unit can be accessed from adjacent unit via a sliding door.

LYNN HALL (LYNN)

<u>Room# / Run#</u>	<u>Length x Width (inches)</u>	<u>Square Feet</u>
B267 & B271		
Stainless Steel 2 Units / 3 Cages per Unit	28 in x 22 in x 22 in (H)	5.4
Stainless Steel 2 Unit / 2 Cages per Unit	28 x 28 x 34 (H)	5.4
Stainless Steel 1 Unit / 4 Cages per Unit	28 x 28 x 34 (H)	5.4
Stainless Steel 2 Units / 4 Cages per Unit	28 x 28 x 28 (H)	5.4
Stainless Steel 2 Units / 4 Cages per Unit	28 x 34 x 34 (H)	6.6
Stainless Steel 2 Units / 2 Cages per Unit	28 x 34 x 34 (H)	6.6
Stainless Steel 1 Units / 3 Cages per Unit	28 x 45.5 x 34 (H)	8.8
Stainless Steel 1 Unit / 2 Cages per Unit	28 x 45.5 x 28 (H) (dividing panel removed)	8.8
Raised Pen Unit	70 x 35 x 71 (H)	17.0

Cages are used to house shelter spay / neuter animals (“client” animals that are not transferred to Purdue in terms of ownership) or for temporary (hour or two) holding of Purdue dogs scheduled for a laboratory session. Shelter spay / neuter animals may be held up to 48 hours.

FORT WAYNE LIFE SCIENCES RESEACH CENTER (LSRC)

Rooms 127 and 129 can be configured for variation in pen number. Room 127: one, two, four or eight pens;
Room 129 one or two pens.

<u>Room# / Run#</u>	<u>Length x Width (inches)</u>	<u>Square Feet</u>
127 / 1	20 x 7	140.0
127 / 1	10 x 7	70.0
127 / 2	10 x 7	70.0
127 / 1	60.0 x 85.2	35.5
127 / 2	60.0 x 85.2	35.5
127 / 3	(60.0 x 85.2) – 300*	33.4
127 / 4	(60.0 x 85.2) + 300*	37.6
127 / 1 thru 8	5 x 3.5	17.5
129 / 1	10 x 7.25	72.5
129 / 1	5 x 7.25	36.25
129 / 2	5 x 7.25	36.25
141 / 1	96.0 x 87	58.0

* Triangular area of Room 127, Pens 3 and 4

$A=1/2(L \times H)$

$A=1/2 (20 \text{ inches} \times 30 \text{ inches})$

$A=300 \text{ inches}$