

# TOOLBOXTALK

## DRINKING WATER

### A BASIC UNDERSTANDING OF THE OSHA SANITATION STANDARD

All employee drinking water facilities and operations must be carried out according to sound hygienic principles.



#### PROVISIONS FOR DRINKING WATER

- An employer is required to provide an adequate supply of potable water in all places of employment. This applies to offices, field offices, and jobsites.
- "Potable water" is defined in Section 1926.51: water which meets the quality standards prescribed in the U.S. Public Health Service Drinking Water Standards, published in 42 CFR Part 721, or water which is approved for drinking purposes by the State or local authority having jurisdiction.
- Portable containers used to dispense drinking water shall be capable of being tightly closed and equipped with a tap. Water shall not be dipped from an open container.

#### THINGS YOU SHOULD DO IN THE WORKPLACE:

- Have an adequate supply of potable water in all places of employment; office, field office jobsites.
- Provide single service (one time use) drinking cups. Common drinking cups are prohibited.
- Provide a sanitary container for unused cups and a receptacle for used cups.
- Clearly mark the container used to distribute drinking water as to the nature of its contents and that it is not to be used for any other purpose.

#### THINGS YOU SHOULD NOT DO IN THE WORKPLACE:

- Do Not use outlets for non-potable water such as water for industrial or firefighting purposes for drinking water.
- Do Not allow cross contamination, open or potential, between a system furnishing potable water and a system furnishing non-potable water.



#### REVIEW QUESTIONS

1) Water only needs to be made available on hot days?

a) True

b) False: All employees should have adequate drinking water everyday regardless of temperature.

2) Dipping cups or sharing cups is a proper way to share common water?

a) True

b) False: Single use cups should be used when sharing water with other workers.

Talk Given By: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Company: \_\_\_\_\_ Location: \_\_\_\_\_

Printed Name

Signature

Printed Name	Signature

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