

WATER

An animal should have access to fresh water at all times.

SIGNS THAT INDICATE AN ANIMAL IS DEHYDRATED

- Animal is weak, tired and losing its balance;
- Less appetite;
- Dry gums;
- Persistent skin fold;
- Heart beat is faster;
- Pulse is weak.

CAUSES

- Not enough water to drink;
- Hot temperatures;
- Long race;
- Diarrhea and/or vomiting;
- Disease;
- Intoxication.

WHAT TO DO IF AN ANIMAL IS DEHYDRATED

- Make sure the animal has access to fresh water all the time, especially if it is kept on a chain;
- If in hot temperatures, take the animal to a shaded or cool area;
- If the animal is vomiting or has diarrhea, treat these conditions as described in the first aid guide;
- Give a rehydration solution.

REHYDRATION SOLUTION

Mix 1 liter of water with ½ teaspoon of sugar and ½ teaspoon of salt.

- Offer 1 cup of the rehydration solution to your animal 3 times a day for 2 days;
 - If your animal doesn't want to drink it, try giving it to the animal with a syringe or mixing it with food;
 - If the rehydration solution makes the animal vomit, try giving ½ cup of the solution 3 times a day for 2 days;
- If the animal doesn't get better or the solution makes it vomit even when a smaller quantity is given, contact the Veterinary Help Line.



Contact the Veterinary Help Line to seek free veterinary advice at 514 345-8521 ext. 0065 or nunavik-giv@medvet.umontreal.ca