



Quick Guide to

Drinking Fountains

Benefits of Reusable Containers and Filling at the Tap

Using a water fountain to refill containers saves money for consumers and reduces the use and disposal of single-use plastic bottles, especially when installed in easily accessible, highly visible areas such as main hallways, waiting areas and cafeterias.

Water fountains with bottle-refill spigots and bottle-less water coolers dispense water from the tap and eliminate the expense of purchasing single-use or bulk bottled water as outlined in Executive Order 18. Typically, reusable drinking water containers have lower life-cycle costs and lower environmental impacts than single-use plastic bottles.

Guidelines

For ALL Drinking Fountains

- ✓ Must have the ability to fill water bottles with either a faucet or other feature that provides at least 10 inches of clearance.
- ✓ If exposed to the elements, it must have frost-proof assembly or allow for seasonal shutdown and drainage.

For Outdoor Drinking Fountains

- ✓ Vandal resistant spigot or other vandal resistant features.
- ✓ If exposed to the elements, it must have frost-proof assembly or allow for seasonal shutdown and drainage.

Affected Entities are Encouraged to:

- ✓ Provide signage that explains the features that add to the desirability of use.
- ✓ Retrofit existing fountains by adding a nozzle and/or spigot for filling and refilling water bottles and/or other similar containers.
- ✓ Provide routine inspection, cleaning, & servicing.

For Indoor Drinking Fountains

- ✓ If refrigeration is provided - the most energy efficient methods of chilling available and/or Energy Star rated methods should be chosen to the extent available.
- ✓ Filters must be changed as recommended by the manufacturer.
- ✓ Filters should be installed in or near the individual fountains and the point-of-use.
- ✓ Use of recyclable filters is encouraged.

More Information

Read the full EO 4 specification for Drinking Fountains on the GreenNY website at: <https://ogs.ny.gov/greeny/drinking-fountains>



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