

Doggie Breath Isn't Normal.

Bad breath may not be as harmless as you think. "Doggie breath" could indicate serious health concerns for your pets.

To help address dental health in pets, the AVMA sponsors national pet dental health month every February.

Take part in the month-long initiative and learn how you can improve your pet's dental as well as their overall health!





During every visit with us, Dr. Lockwood will look at your pet's teeth and assess the degree of periodontal disease.

Dental disease can cause a lot of issues such as stinky breath, gum disease, plaque buildup, pain, weight loss and poor quality of life.

Depending on the degree of dental disease, cleanings can range from using a toothbrush to freshen breath to ultrasonic scaling to break off hard tartar built up.

The Degrees of Periodontal Disease



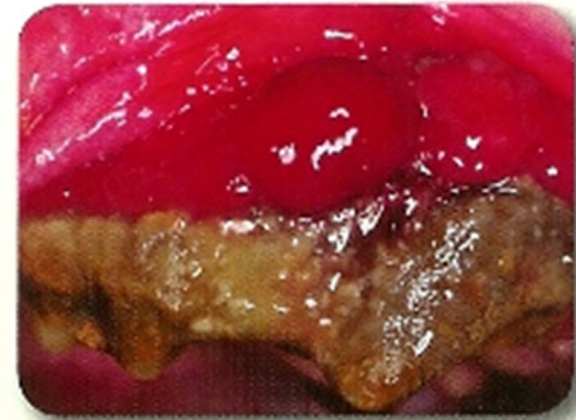
Gingivitis:
Plaque and slightly
disagreeable mouth odor.



Early periodontal disease:
Gum inflammation,
swelling and bad breath.



**Moderate
periodontal disease:**
Pustular discharge,
bleeding and moderate
bad breath.



**Advanced
periodontal disease:**
Bleeding gums, mobile teeth
and very bad breath.



Brushing

in 4 easy steps

Step 1: Get comfortable.

- Set expectations that getting used to brushing might take several sessions, so reward your pet through the training process and remember to keep it positive and be patient.
- Practice lifting their lip to see their teeth and reward with praise.



Step 2: Try toothpaste.

- You can wrap your index finger in gauze or use a finger toothbrush.
- After your dog is comfortable, lift his lip and gently rub the pet toothpaste over his teeth and gums.



Step 3: Toothbrush time.

- Introduce the toothbrush provided by your veterinarian.
- If desired, place a small amount of pet toothpaste on the brush and gently start brushing.



Step 4: Brushing success.

- Brush teeth and gums gently and finish with the bottom front teeth.
- Focus on the outside of the teeth — the surface facing the cheek is most prone to plaque and tartar buildup.
- When finished, offer him praise and plenty of love. Let your dog know what a great pet he is and make brushing a positive experience.



Doggie Dental Care

Dos & Don'ts



DO's

- Brush your dog's teeth at least once a week.
- Check your pet's mouth and gums for abnormalities once a month. Look for swollen gums, brownish tartar on teeth, worse than usual bad breath, excessive drooling, and any loose teeth.
- Invest in chew toys which help remove tartar from their teeth.
- Look for food and treats formulated for dental care and approved by the Veterinary Oral Health Council (VOHC)

DON'Ts

- Use human toothpaste. Flouride is very dangerous for pets and there may be other harmful ingredients not meant for our furry friends.
- Ignore the signs of gum disease. Make a trip to a Veterinary Dental Care Professional at least once a year.
- Give up - ease your dog slowly into teeth brushing. He or she may not be used to this new ritual, but with patience, time and treats they will get there!

The first stage of periodontal disease can be maintained with dental chews or brushing your pet's teeth.

Here are some helpful tips on and the "dos and don'ts" of animal oral hygiene.

If you have any questions about oral home care, please ask one of our knowledgeable technicians!

What if brushing my dog's teeth is just not enough?

For you and me, brushing our teeth daily doesn't always satisfy our dental hygiene requirements. The same rules apply to our pets.

When you visit your dentist every 6 months, your dental health care team will scale your teeth, look at your gum health and make recommendations as necessary.

Dogs and cats need annual dental visits too! Scaling, polishing and gum health exams are key to your pet's overall health! Especially when higher degrees of periodontal disease are present.





Periodontal disease doesn't just effect teeth and gums. Serious health conditions are linked to even early periodontal disease. As dental disease progresses, so does the potential for heart, kidney and liver disease.

Pet Dental Care



Serious Health Conditions are Linked to **NEGLECTED TOOTH CARE & DENTAL DISEASE**



HEART



KIDNEYS



LIVER



LUNGS









PAIN

Proper Dental Care can extend the life of your pet by 20% (2-5 years)



LEARN HOW TO SPOT THE SIGNS OF DENTAL DISEASE

-  BAD BREATH
-  PAWING AT MOUTH
-  DIFFICULTY EATING

-  RED OR INFLAMED GUMS
-  BROWNEED TEETH
-  SWELLING UNDER ONE EYE



Dogs have more teeth than humans and require the same care as human teeth



Animals are "Stoic" and often HIDE their pain



Most pets have signs of dental disease by age 3



How did I get stuck with this job?



Dental Cleanings at Crosswinds

Before



After



Before: Moderate gingival inflammation and heavy buildup of hard calculi around canines and premolars. Without proper removal and scaling, gingival inflammation can progress to breakdown of the periodontal ligament leading to tooth loss.

Dental Cleanings at Crosswinds

Before



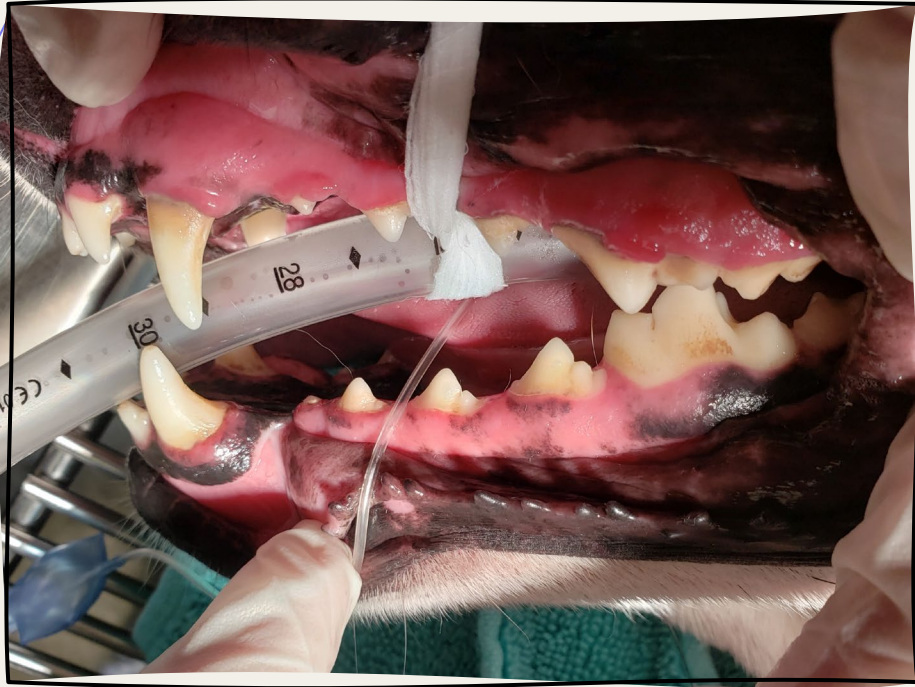
After



Before: Notice soft plaque around upper canine composed of bacteria and carbohydrates. Gingival recession can also be seen. Hard dental calculi is present on lower canines, premolars, and molars.

Dental Cleanings at Crosswinds

Before



After



Before: Notice dental tartar and calculi on the canine teeth, premolars and molars which caused bad breath. Also, presence of gingivitis and gingival hyperplasia (excess gum tissue) on upper premolar.

Dental Cleanings at Crosswinds

Before



After



Before: Notice heavy dental calculi on all visible teeth, especially the upper premolar. This can lead to bad breath and trouble eating. There is also gingival inflammation and recession around upper canine tooth.

For all patients who schedule a dental cleaning procedure in February



- + Free Box of Purina Dental Chews
- + Free Sample of VeggieDent Treats
- + 10% off the price of a bag of VeggieDent Treats (30ct)
- + Free Dental Cleaning kit (includes sample of pet toothpaste and pet toothbrush)
- + Entrance into Raffle for prizes

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