

February



It's National Dental Health Month!!

Not sure if your pet needs a dental procedure? Come in and have a dental examine done by one of our veterinarians to determine

if your pet needs a dental cleaning! For the month of February, all dental procedures are 10% off.

Good Dental Health Starts at a Young Age

Growing up everyone was taught to brush their teeth twice a day to prevent cavities and keep their mouth healthy! Brushing our teeth has become so routine that most of us do not think twice about it. Our pets need the same as well.

Brushing once daily has been proven to be the single most effective way to prevent plaque and tartar buildup off of your pet's teeth. Plaque turns into tartar after 24 hours and once there, it is staying until your pet has a dental procedure.

Brushing your pet's teeth is easier said than done. If you start at a young age getting them used to teeth brushing, most pets will tolerate it well. Brushing will help slow down tartar and plaque buildup significantly. This can mean dollars saved down the road, less bad breathe, and a healthier mouth for your pet. Dental chews and special oral diets can help slow the buildup of tartar and plaque, but are not a replacement for daily teeth brushing.

Valentines Days Strawberry Dog Treats

Ingredients:

- One Banana
- Six Strawberries

What you will need:

- Ice cube tray (use trays that have shapes for fun treats!)
- A small blender

Instructions:

1. Remove the stems from the strawberries and rinse.
2. Peel the banana and cut into three pieces.
3. Put the banana and strawberries into the small blender.
4. Blend until the consistency is smooth and free of any fruit chunks.
5. Pour the smoothie mixture into the ice cube tray.
6. Freeze for a few hours or until frozen.
7. Serve as a tasty treat to your pet!

Veterinary Medical and
Surgical Hospital of Topeka
1515 SW 29th St.
Topeka, KS 66611
PH: 785-267-6060

The Dental Procedure

All of our dentals are done under full anesthesia with your pet having an endotracheal tube placed in their trachea. This delivers the gas anesthesia as well as prevents them from inhaling plaque and tartar during the dental procedure. Our goal is to safely clean your pet's teeth. We are able to get under the gum line with our ultrasonic scaler (the same equipment your dental hygienist uses on you!) and clean out both the visible and not visible tartar that has accumulated on your pet's teeth. Once cleaned, we take x-rays and from there determine if a tooth needs to be removed. When finished, we polish your pet's teeth, rinse out their mouth, suction out any water and other debris, apply fluoride to their teeth, and wake your pet up safely from anesthesia. We strive to give your pet a similar experience and thorough cleaning just like your dentist provides.



When and How We Decide to Remove Teeth

Teeth are removed from your pet only when it is necessary. We use dental x-rays during a dental procedure to help us determine if a tooth needs to be removed since quite a bit of dental disease lies below the gum line. We look for bone loss around the tooth, root abscesses (pockets of pus) within the bone from an infected tooth, and fractures of the tooth along with other signs to help indicate that a tooth needs to be removed. Damaged or infected teeth are usually removed very easily which can mean that that tooth was causing discomfort for your pet. When teeth are removed, you may notice that in just a few days, your pet will be acting like a new dog/cat! This is because their pain from dental disease is gone and they are feeling so much better!

