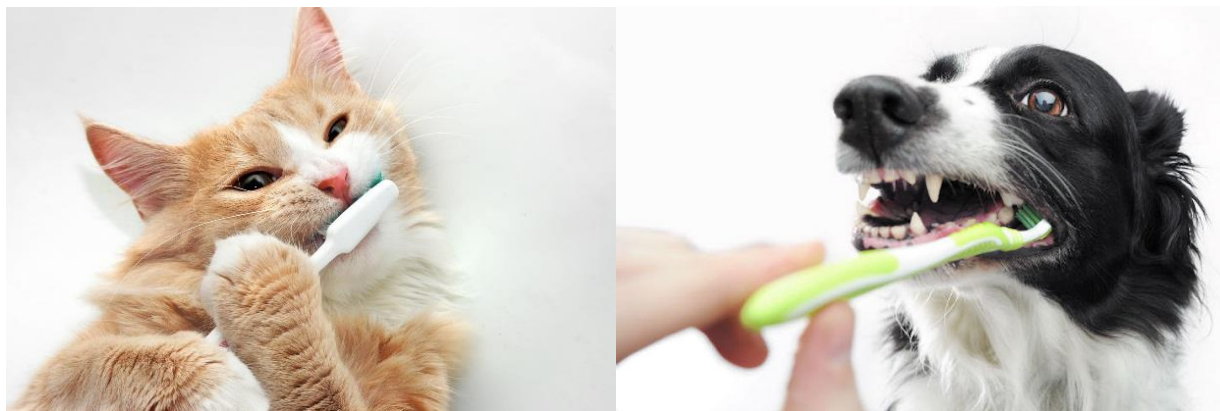


The Importance of Dental Care



The importance of routine dental care cannot be stressed enough. Proper dental care actually helps prevent many health problems as your pet ages. Our wellness exams include an examination of the mouth.

Preventative Care:

When early tartar buildup is diagnosed, we can offer some preventive care. This might include one or more of the following:

1. Toothbrush/toothpaste kits or dental wipes
2. Oral rinse to slow tartar buildup, for example, Healthy Mouth.
3. A liquid added to drinking water and has an enzymatic action to slow tartar buildup.
4. A dental diet designed to prevent tartar buildup.
5. Other products that help keep the teeth clean. Check VOHC.org for products endorsed by veterinary dentists.

Dental Cleanings:

Once tartar has noticeably accumulated on the surface of the teeth, the next step is a professional dental cleaning. Even the most obedient pets won't lie back and keep their mouths open, so this procedure needs to be done under general anesthesia. This means your pet will get to spend the day with us and go home late that afternoon with sweet-smelling breath and clean, healthy teeth and gums.

Delaying or abstaining from dental cleanings can have drastic implications on your pet's overall health. As tartar builds up, abscesses may form along the gum line causing infections. Left unattended, the infection can enter the blood stream, leading to health problems (heart & kidney disease) and potentially prove fatal.

Please purchase a toothbrush kit and our technician will gladly show you how to properly brush your pet's teeth.