

Animal Facts

Dental Care for Pets

Did you know that periodontal disease is the number one disease of pets today, affecting 85% of adult dogs and cats? And yet it is very preventable.

Periodic professional dental cleanings coupled with home dental care is a critical element of total health care for your pet.

Periodontitis (inflammation of the tissues and structures surrounding the teeth) not only causes "doggy breath", but also pain and potential tooth loss. Bacteria living in the mouth cause the odor, and when mixed with salivary debris can form plaque which, in turn, can solidify into tartar on the teeth. In addition, a pet with periodontitis can send a bacterial shower into the blood-stream every time it chews. Consequently, these bacteria can affect the heart valves, lungs, liver, and kidneys.



GOOD PET HEALTH CARE INCLUDES REGULAR TEETH BRUSHING

A regular veterinary dental checkup and cleaning under a short anesthetic is important to your pet's good health. Equally important is home dental care, such as brushing your pet's teeth at least every other day.

Ask your veterinarian for advice in how to best look after your pet's dental health!

Dr. Jay Thrush is the owner of Brandon Hills Veterinary Clinic and we thank him for this information.