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For after hour emergencies call
Central Vet Emergency Services
303-874-7387

Doctors Advice

Dental Health Month

Again February is coming and again we will be celebrating **National Pet Dental Health Month**. Is this the only time we care about your pet's oral health?...Of course not! But thanks to massive promotion of this cause throughout the veterinary industry, we are able to offer select dental services to those of you who put dental health on the back burner the rest of the year.

Why is dental health so important? Not only does regular dental care keep the teeth healthy and pain free, it also protects the vital organs (like the heart and brain) from the nasty bacteria in the mouth. Just as in people, poor dental care can lead to heart valve problems, septicemia (bacteria in the blood stream), and more, including early death.

Isn't anesthesia dangerous?

Advances in anesthesia and anesthesia monitoring make complications with anesthesia almost non-existent. Every procedure, even those that don't involve anesthesia have some level of risk. I would anesthetize any one of my pets in a heartbeat for dental care, because the risk of complications from dental disease far outweighs the anesthetic risk.

Don't dental cleanings cost a lot?

It depends on your perspective. How much is it worth to you to have your pet live longer, sometimes even several years longer? Most of us who have some dental health coverage for ourselves pay very little if anything at all for dental scaling, polishing, x-rays, fluoride treatments etc. We also will hold our mouth open and spit in a cup when asked. (Most of us anyway.) Anesthesia is the most costly part of the dental cleaning because to provide minimal risk, we use the best anesthetics, intravenous fluids, and pain control and antibiotics when necessary. Also, an *emergency* dental because of an abscessed tooth will be far more costly to your pet and yourself.

I would encourage all of you to strive to bring your pet in at least once a year for a dental cleaning and oral evaluation. Imagine what your teeth would look and feel like if you never (or rarely) brushed your teeth or went to the dentist.

P.S. Good job to those of you who already brush your pets' teeth and have them cleaned regularly!!!!

New Years Resolutions for your pets...

Dogs

1. This year I will stop digging.
2. This year I will stop peeing in the back bedroom.
3. This year I will stop getting into the garbage.
4. This year I will not bark at every person who walks by the house...just the mailman.
5. This year I will go for 'walks' and not pull on my leash.

I try to do all these things because I want to please my human companions, sometimes I just don't have the strength to be good.

Cats

1. Tomorrow when I throw up a hairball, I'll be sure it **all** gets on the carpet, none of this 'half-on-the-tile' stuff.
2. Today when I use the litter box, I won't cover it up, there simply are not enough "Cat Smells" in this house.
3. When I catch that mouse this week I will bring it **on** the bed.
4. I will try to groom myself more in public.
5. I want to gain more weight this year... it's the latest fad.

I do all these things because I want my human companions to please and serve me and I just don't care about being good.

Did You Know? *From Adrienne*

You should bathe your dog no more than once a month. Colorado's high altitude and dry air is not only hard on our skin but our pets as well. The only time you need to bathe your cat (make sure you have full body armor on) is if your cat is unable to do it himself/herself. How do you bathe your pet? Start by putting cotton balls in your pet's ears. We don't want water getting in there and starting a yeast infection.

Always wet your pets coat before applying shampoo. Place a small amount in your hands and rub them together to get a-lather going. Always use warm water to rinse your pet. Make sure all soap has been washed out. Follow with a conditioner to make your pets coat soft and easier to brush.

There are many shampoos on the market for pets. The ones I suggest are right here at the vet. Epi-Soothe Shampoo and Conditioner are antipruritic (stops itching), soothing, hydrating & restoring. Okay the only reason I use this shampoo is because it make my pug's fur sooooo soft and their fur is sooooo shiny. Another shampoo we have here that I use on my pets is call EFA HyLyt Shampoo it has essential fatty acids is soap-free, hypoallergenic for use on normal, dry or sensitive skin.

Dog Treat with Chicken Broth

Ingredients:

2 cups whole wheat flour
2/3 cup yellow cornmeal
1/2 cup sunflower seeds—shelled
2 tablespoons corn oil
1/2 cup chicken broth
2 eggs
1/4 cup low-fat milk
1 egg—beaten

Instructions:

-Heat oven to 350 degrees. In a large bowl, mix together flour, cornmeal and seeds. Add oil, broth and egg mixture. The dough should be firm. Let sit 15-20 minutes. On a lightly floured surface roll out dough, 1/4 inch thick. Cut into shapes and brush with beaten egg.

BAKE 25-35 minutes, until golden brown. Remove and cool. Then store in an airtight container.



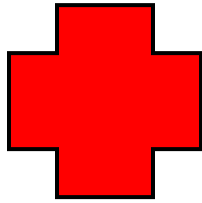
Hurricane

Relief

A special thanks to **Betty Thompson** for organizing donation jars to

help hurricane Katrina pets. Many pets like their human counterparts were left homeless and injured after the disaster. Donations are given to the Humane Society so that they may provide food, shelter and treatment to victimized pets. Foster homes are in high demand due to the sheer volume of homeless animals.

If you wish to help please contact the **Colo. Humane Society at 303-781-4418**. Thanks to all of those who have already donated.



Pet Birthdays

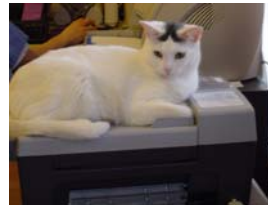
Trinity	Bella	Bodi
Pixel	Nigel	Homer
Myrrh	Marley	Oliver
Maya		

Pet Obituaries

Barney	Enigma
Tasha	Abby
Little Guy	Chestnut

Meet Isis

She was one of four kittens born to a stray mama in Aurora. The doctor adopted the mama, now called Fiona. Isis became a clinic companion to Kane before his passing last Thanksgiving. The other three kittens were adopted. Isis is our little troublemaker. She steals blood collection tubes out of the laboratory. Sits on the blood spinner while it's spinning and sits inside the turtle tank and steals the crickets.



I guess starting life out on the streets turned her baaaad.

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