# DENTAL CARE



#### WHY A PET'S DENTAL HEALTH IS IMPORTANT

A pet with healthy teeth equals a pet with better breath! Dental disease can lead to problems with your pet's organs, and pets that don't get dental care can painfully loose their teeth.



# WHAT ARE SIGNS OF DENTAL DISEASE?

Halitosis, loose or broken teeth, tooth discoloration, gum bleeding or redness, drooling, abnormal appetite, dropping or difficulty chewing food.



# WHAT ARE PLAQUE AND TARTAR/CALCULUS?

Plaque is a sticky film of bacteria that forms on teeth and can inflame gums. Tartar is hardened, calcified plaque that cannot be removed by brushing/chewing.



# WHY IS BRUSHING THE BEST AT-HOME METHOD?

Brushing removes plaque from teeth before it turns into tartar.
Brush daily with pet safe toothpaste.
Begin early when your pet is a kitten or puppy.



### WHY SCHEDULE REGULAR DENTAL EXAMS?

Evaluation and cleaning under anesthesia is recommended. This allows for a thorough examination and allows x-rays to determine unseen issues.



# WHY AVOID HARD ITEMS FOR PET CHEW TOYS?

Bones, antlers, and hard toys can break or damage teeth. Any item you cannot dent with your fingernail is too tough for your pet's teeth.

CONTACT YOUR VETERINARIAN:

