



MARSHALL ANIMAL HOSPITAL

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DENTAL CARE

Your pet has just had a complete dental cleaning. This included cleaning the surface of the teeth and scaling under the gum line. As a result, your pet's mouth may be sore. We recommend that, for today only, you feed your pet canned food or dry food moistened with water. Because your pet may be a bit nauseous from the anesthesia we administered, it is best to feed a very light meal today. Wait at least two hours after you get your pet home before offering food. It is normal for your pet to be a little sleepier than usual today; his/her activity level should return to normal tomorrow. Please call us if you are concerned about how your pet is feeling. If you have any questions after hours, please call the East Texas Pet Emergency Clinic at 903-759-8545.

The dental cleaning we performed will lengthen your pet's life. Dental tarter leads to gum infections (also known as periodontal disease), which can lead to heart, liver, and kidney disease. It is very important that you take steps at home to prevent tarter buildup on your pet's teeth. There are several options available to assist you in this important responsibility.

Brushing Your Pet's Teeth

Be sure to use veterinary toothpaste, as human toothpastes contain sugars and foaming agents that can irritate your pet's stomach. Veterinary toothpastes come in flavors that pets love, such as malt, poultry and mint. Most contain enzymes that break down plaque, so scrubbing your pet's teeth is not necessary. You may use your finger, a gauze pad or a toothbrush. Your pet may be resistant at first – go slowly and start with one or two teeth at a time, gradually increasing the number. Be sure to praise and reward your pet!!

Dental Rinses or Gels

If your pet will not tolerate brushing, a dental rinse or gel may be a good option. These products work by decreasing the number of bacteria in the mouth. They are applied by squeezing or squirting into the mouth so a brush is not necessary.

Diet

A healthy diet is essential to your pet. We recommend that you feed your pet dry food. A variety of high quality Purina Pro Plan and Vet Diet foods are available. Please ask one of our physicians or staff which food variety is recommended for your pet.

We would be happy to answer any questions you may have, or to recommend products for your pet. We can show you how to properly use these products. We at Marshall Animal Hospital care about your pet, and want your pet to live a long, healthy life!

"We Treat Your Pets Like Family"