

12 Steps of the Dental Cleaning/Diagnostic Visit At Gentle Care Animal Hospital

A dog or cat teeth cleaning means something different to every one. At Gentle Care Animal Hospital the teeth cleaning visit is a lot more than removing tartar from teeth. Our goal is to restore your pet's mouth to its normal, fresh, healthy state and teaching you to have an active role in maintaining your pets oral health. Having your pet's teeth professionally cleaned is the single most important medical treatment you can give that will result in long-term health.

We are serious about keeping your pet's teeth as healthy as possible. With every teeth cleaning performed at Gentle Care Animal Hospital, we perform a 12 step process to ensure the very best care for your pet.

What's involved in the teeth cleaning performed at Gentle Care Animal Hospital?

1. A general exam before anesthesia, including evaluation of overall health, preoperative organ testing, and evaluation of the bite, identification of abnormal wear patterns, gum infections, and oral cancer.
2. An oral examination under anesthesia.
3. Tartar removal from the visible part of the teeth.
4. Subgingival (below the gumline) scaling, root planning, and curettage where indicated. Removing tartar from the tooth crowns may improve the appearance of teeth, but dental disease is more active below the gumline.
5. Tooth polishing to remove etches and to restore the tooth enamel to a smooth surface.
6. Irrigation of periodontal pockets with an antimicrobial solution.
7. Post cleaning exam and x-rays. We can see the crown but not the roots and our pets can't tell us where it hurts.
8. Dental charting for the medical record.
9. Therapy if needed.
10. OraVet or Sanos application as a means to aid in reducing future plaque accumulations.
11. Home Care instructions on oral hygiene. Our dental technician will meet with you after the teeth cleaning to review tooth brushing techniques and your pet's custom-designed oral hygiene program, which is based on conditions found and your pet's willingness to be treated.
12. A follow-up appointment and periodic rechecks to see how well you are performing home care.

Check with your veterinarian to ensure all the above steps are taken during the dental procedure to ensure your pet is getting the best possible dental care.