

**February is National Pet Dental Health Month**

# DID YOU KNOW?

Information from American Veterinary Medical Association (AVMA), [www.avma.org](http://www.avma.org).



**Make sure to talk with your veterinarian today about your pet's oral care and creating a plan to ensure a lifetime of good dental health for your pet.**

- Most dogs and cats are diagnosed with oral disease by age 3
- Oral disease is the most misdiagnosed health problem for pets
- Yellow teeth and bad breath can mean a more serious health issue that could affect your pet's heart, kidney and liver
- Most dental disease occurs below the gum line
- Brushing your pet's teeth is the most effective way to help keep your pet's teeth clean between professional dental cleanings from your veterinarian
- Dental chews, dental-specific diets and oral rinses can also help to keep your pet's teeth clean between visits
- Your pet's teeth and gums should be checked at least once a year by a licensed veterinarian
- Weight loss, red or bloody gums, broken or loose teeth, excessive drooling are just a few signs that your pet could have a serious dental condition
- Anesthesia is used during dental procedures to ensure your pet is under the least amount of pain and stress as possible

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