

We recommend dental cleanings usually every 6-12 months for most pets. After their dental cleaning we recommend brushing their teeth and/or using dental chew treats such as VeggieDent Chews which we have available at the clinic.

What happens during a dental exam and dental cleaning? When your pet comes in for an exam, the veterinarian will do an overall physical, which includes checking their teeth and they may possibly recommend a sedated dental cleaning. Animals are put under general anesthesia for dental procedures so their veterinarian is able to thoroughly examine in and around their mouth, teeth, and gums.

Before animals are sedated for their dental procedure, we will run pre-anesthetic blood work (if required by Dr. Lisa) to look at your pet's liver and kidney function, and make sure they are healthy enough to undergo anesthesia. Your pet may require a change to their anesthesia or additional support during anesthesia depending on their bloodwork results.

When your pet is sedated, we can take dental x-rays of their mouth which will show Dr. Lisa if there are any concerns below the gum line. During the dental cleaning, the veterinarian will not only clean above and below the gum line, polish, and place fluoride on your pet's teeth, but they will also do a thorough examination of your pet's mouth. The vet will be looking for signs of loose, fractured, broken, or infected teeth and evaluate which teeth need to be extracted to keep your pet healthy. They will also make sure there are no foreign objects in your pet's mouth which may be causing pain, trouble eating, or even infection.

After the dental cleaning, your pet will be brought back to a kennel for recovery, where they will be monitored by a technician. At the time of pick up, Dr. Lisa or a technician will go over the findings, any take-home instructions, and possible medications such as antibiotics or pain meds.