

When you go to your dentist, the first thing they do before cleaning your teeth is to take dental x-rays, also known as dental radiographs. Now, we are able to do the same! With our new machine we are able to take pictures of your pet's mouth before their dental cleaning. Unlike people though, pets do need to be sedated before taking the x-rays. 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 and dental cleaning.

These x-rays allow Dr. Gartland to visualize your pet's tooth/jaw structure under the gum line to see if there are any serious dental concerns, such as root problems, embedded foreign objects, cysts, or tumors. Dental x-rays are crucial for diagnosing dental diseases early and accurately, which can prevent more severe health issues down the line. Cleaning your pet's teeth without dental x-rays can result in missed opportunities to improve your pet's oral health. Even though radiation is involved, the exposure level is very low, especially with modern digital X-ray equipment designed to minimize risks.

After the x-rays are completed, Dr. Gartland will take a close look to see if there are any abnormalities and use this information to better take care of your pet's teeth.