

# **Crestview Animal Hospital**

## ***Home Dental Care Recommendations***

*The American Veterinary Dental Society recommends a full dental cleaning every 6 months for your pet, the same as your dentist recommends for you. Imagine what that cleaning procedure for you would be like if you didn't brush your teeth between dental visits. Just as in humans, home dental care is the single most important aspect of regular dental care for your pet.*

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### ***Brushing:***

- ❖ *Brush your pet's teeth every day if possible (minimum twice a week).*
- ❖ *Use a paste specifically formulated for dogs and cats, such as CET paste.*
- ❖ *There are a variety of toothbrushes available that are specifically designed for pets.*
- ❖ *Hold your pet's mouth gently in the closed position and brush along the outer surfaces of the teeth and under the lips.*

### ***Oral Rinses:***

- ❖ *Oral rinses may be helpful immediately after having your pet's teeth professionally cleaned by our facility.*
- ❖ *Other sprays, gels, and solutions for your pet's teeth include Maxigard and Nolvadent, which can be applied after meals.*
- ❖ *Additives to your pet's water can help reduce tartar build up as well.*

### ***Food/Treats:***

- ❖ *Feed your pet dry food when possible to help reduce tartar build-up.*
- ❖ *There are specially designed foods available, such as Hills T/D formula, that have more abrasion that scrapes bacterial plaque off of your pet's teeth when chewed.*
- ❖ *Acceptable chew toys/treats include CET chews and Advanced Dental Chews. These can be given once daily to once weekly after meals.*