

The Front Office Hours

Monday, Tuesday, Thursday

8:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.

Wednesday

8:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

Friday

8:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

Patients Seen by Appointments

Please call to check Dr.'s availability



Happy New Year & Thank You!

To all the wonderful clients who helped contribute to our pet food drive for the Senior citizens of the Harrington area.

It was a huge success!!

State of Delaware Dog Licensing

Beginning January 1, 2010, residents will purchase licenses from their county of residence. Licenses will be valid statewide. Licenses purchased from the State of Delaware before January 1 will be valid through the expiration period and upon expiration, dog owners will be required to purchase the appropriate county license.

It is required by law all dogs 6 months of age or older must be licensed by March 1st of each calendar year.

Prices vary between counties. Contact: New Castle, Kent or Sussex SPCA's or for more information go to:

www.fw.delaware.gov/info/pages/



Starting January 1, 2010 there will be a \$5.00 charge for written prescriptions and \$10.00 for called-in prescriptions. Please call 24 hours in advance for veterinary only filled prescriptions.

This Coupon Entitles

\$10.00

**toward Dental Cleaning
the Month of February**

A. Little Veterinary Clinic



February is Dental Month



Maintaining the health of your pet's teeth is the most important thing that you can do to increase the comfort and length of your pet's life.

Periodontal disease is the number one disease of pets today. It is a diagnosis common to all pets, in all age groups, becoming more advanced as pets get older. This disease is very preventable. Factors that influence the development of oral disease include genetics, diet and home care.

Veterinarians believe that periodic professional dental cleanings coupled with home dental care is a critical element of total healthcare for our pets. Inflammation of the tissues, periodontitis, and structures surrounding the teeth, not only causes "doggy breath" but also pain, discomfort and potential tooth loss.

A thorough oral exam is one of the most important parts of our comprehensive exam. Clinical signs of disease may include bad breath, excessive salivation, appetite changes, facial swelling, weight loss, pawing at the mouth, and behavioral shifts. We suggest home dental care and professional dental cleaning for your pets. Home dental care is a classic example of preventative medicine.

We like to educate our clients to start at the puppy and kitten stage with basic teeth brushing techniques as part of routine grooming and training. It takes only 6 to 8 hours for bacteria to attach to the tooth's surface. Bacteria then absorbs calcium from saliva and forms tartar or calculus. Brushing daily helps to continually break this cycle. We have toothbrushes and special toothpaste to help achieve good results.

When brushing is not possible, these other techniques may help: wiping the teeth with medicated wipes; rinsing the mouth with an oral antiseptic rinse, and lastly, using CET chews.

Providing dental care can improve your pets activity levels, appetite, and overall well being.

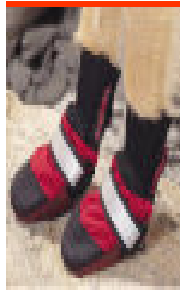
We would be glad to discuss recommendations for your pet, in both the professional and home care realm. After an exam we can determine the need for a cleaning (to prevent disease) or periodontal therapy (treatment of current disease) and provide an estimate accordingly. Please call to schedule your exam so that we may get you started on maintaining your pet's teeth today!

Paws to Protect—Winter Foot Care Tips for Pets

Winter boots are essential wear for humans to provide traction and protection on snow and ice. Our pets need special care and attention for their feet during harsh weather, too. Learn how to minimize injury and discomfort for your pet’s paws and be aware of other winter dangers.

If your pet is going on a walk or hike with you where there is lots of snow, ice balls can form between the paw pads. This is due to the hair between the paw pads that serves to collect the snow and form a nice hard ice ball. Difficult to walk on! This can be helped by trimming the hair a bit and even applying a small amount of petroleum jelly or olive oil to the area prior to the walk. Always be sure to use an edible ointment /oil, as dogs often lick their feet and ingest what was applied. Another options is to purchase boots for pets, however some dogs may not tolerate the boots.

Salt and other ice melting granules or chemical can irritate your pet’s paws. Pets often lick their paws when wet or irritated, leading to possible toxicity by ingestion of the ice melting substance. Pets also love eating and licking the snow that falls off of you use a pound, will ingest Sand, non-cat litters est option on the ice you pur-salt or de- buy the “pet safe” brands.



Injuries can occur from stepping on items obscured by snow, sharp edges of ice, and sometimes from snow toys and implements used to remove snow. First aid treatment is to gently cleanse the wound with warm water and a mild soap, and

apply pressure to stop bleeding. Paw pads are very thick and slow to heal; deep cuts to the paw pads usually require sutures for proper healing.

Another cold related problem is frostbite. If your pet is left outside or becomes lost during a heavy snowstorm, frostbite may occur. If this happens, remember—frozen tissues should never be rubbed. This causes additional tissue damage. Prompt veterinary treatment is needed. If this is not possible, warm the affected area rapidly by immersing in warm, never hot, water or by using warm, moist towels that are changed frequently. As soon as the affected tissues become flushed, discontinue warming. Gently dry the affected tissues and lightly cover with a clean, dry, non-adhering bandage. If frostbite is in the later stages, gangrene may set in and cause all kinds of infections. So, if you suspect your pet has frostbite, take it the your veterinarian.

A. Little Veterinary Clinic
 6902 Milford Harrington Hwy.
 Harrington, DE 19952

Helpful Hints for Our Clients

Online Information
www.veterinarypartner.com

Heartworm preventative
 and
 Flea prevention
 are important during the winter
 months as well.

February is DENTAL month;
 Schedule a yearly cleaning for
 your pet today!!

We care about your pet’s health!

Our mission is to provide the highest quality of veterinary care for your pet and superior client service.

Thank you for allowing us to be your veterinary health care provider.