

Did You Know?

- Deicing products, salt and ice can get into fur and paws, causing skin irritation or more serious conditions. Thoroughly wipe your pet's paws and tummy when he comes in from the cold.
- Take care to wipe up any spilled or leaking anti-freeze - dogs and cats like the sweet taste but it is extremely toxic. Better yet, use pet friendly antifreeze products.
- Continue heartworm prevention for your pet all year long. This also helps to control many intestinal parasites and maintains product compliance guarantees from the manufacturer.
- Current clients will receive a \$10 credit to your account by referring a friend. We thank you for your support.



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Suburban Animal Clinic

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Pet Pause

Suburban
Animal Clinic

Your Pet's Health

- Dental Health is Important for Pets Too!
- Feline Dental Disease
 - Oral Resorptive Lesions
- Companion Laser Therapy

News For You

- Best of Columbus Award
- What's New at Suburban?
- Visit SAC Online Store

Pet Owner Tips

- Chew Toys
- Did You Know?
- VPI has a New Look



Dental Health is Important For Pets Too!

Gingivitis, dental calculus (mineralized plaque) and oral disease rank highest in prevalence when compared to all other health problems in dogs and cats. Over 70% of all dogs and cats have some form of dental disease. This out ranks even skin disease, ear disease and arthritis.

Research has shown that dental disease can have both local and systemic effects on tissues and organs, including the heart, liver and kidneys. Loose, infected and fractured teeth can cause your pet pain and the inability to eat properly. (Does your pet have bad breath?)

The veterinarians at Suburban Animal Clinic examine and record the condition of teeth and gums during routine physical examinations. The overall health status of dogs and cats can be improved by periodic prophylactic veterinary dental cleanings and some form of home oral care. Please follow our recommendations and reminders to treat and maintain your pet's oral health.

SUBURBAN SPECIAL \$20.00 OFF PET DENTAL CARE

Suburban Animal Clinic is offering \$20 off your pet's dental cleaning scheduled now through March 31, 2011.

Call 614-276-5479 to book this offer, limited times are available.

Disorders That May Respond to Laser Therapy

- Arthritis, hip dysplasia, degenerative joint disease.
- Muscle, ligament, tendon injuries.
- Post surgical pain relief and faster healing.
- Ear inflammation and infections (acute and chronic).
- Oral lesions, gingivitis and post dental extraction therapy.
- Bite wounds, lick granulomas, hot spots, skin abrasions.
- General wound healing, cystitis, disc disease and anal gland inflammation.

Over the past year, we have had a great success using our Companion Therapy Laser to treat a number of conditions - it helps to speed healing and relieve pain.

- *Safe, effective, drug free* -

Ask about the Companion Therapy Laser

Chew Toys We Recommend

The size of the chew toy needs to fit the size of the dog and should be at least the length of the dog's head. **CET oral hygiene chews** are impregnated with an enzyme system that provides a natural abrading action to help remove plaque and food debris and freshen breath. **Kongs** and **Busy Buddies** are great. Stuff them with peanut butter, cheese whiz, cream cheese, and pieces of **Hill's Prescription Diet** (tartar control) **t/d**. These keep your dog chewing, busy, and happy.

AVOID! Hard nylabones and ice, they break teeth! No bones of animal origin, including pig ears, cow hooves, processed animal bones or chicken/steak bones. They may fracture teeth, cause diarrhea (from bacterial contamination) or cause a deadly intestinal blockage.

Feline Dental Disease: Oral Resorptive Lesions

Feline resorptive lesions or cat cavities are a dental disorder in which portions of the teeth dissolve or are resorbed at the gum line. It is caused by an inflammation of the lining of the socket that surrounds the root of the tooth. It may be severe enough to destroy the crown of the tooth, leaving only the roots. In such cases, the sensitive internal structures of the tooth remain exposed, and the cat experiences considerable **pain and discomfort**.

Symptoms of these lesions may include difficulty eating, loss of weight, chattering of teeth, drooling and lethargy. It is estimated that 20% to 60% of all cats are affected, with two to five teeth involved in each cat. It is possible for cats to experience this disorder without showing any outward signs. Generally, however, the gum line is reddened, swollen and tender. The premolars and molars are most often affected, followed by the canines (fang) teeth. Periodic, professional dental cleaning plays a very important role in controlling this disease.

Important Points in Treatment:

- Dental x-rays are generally required to determine the extent of damage to the teeth.
- Current treatment is extraction of the diseased teeth along with a dental prophy under general anesthesia.
- Antibiotics may need to be given along with pain medications.
- No one is certain as to what is the underlying cause of Feline Oral Resorptive Lesions. Regular home dental care consisting of brushing, oral rinses, dental sealants or chew devices may help. **Hill's Prescription Diet t/d** helps reduce plaque, tartar and gingivitis when it's fed to cats.



Best of Columbus Award

Suburban Animal Clinic was awarded the Best of Columbus Award for Veterinary Services in 2010. The U.S. Commerce Association recognizes outstanding local businesses based on the quality of service they provide to their local community and their clients.



Visit the Suburban Animal Clinic Online Store

Do you like to shop on the internet, buy in bulk or look to save on high priced veterinary products? Visit the Suburban Animal Clinic Online Store at your convenience for shopping 24/7. It now offers quicker service and more products - many of which we don't carry in our hospital. You receive home delivery for all the products, including Hill's Science Diet and Prescription Diets. Prescription products require our doctors authorization before shipping. Pet home dental care items are now featured. Go to www.suburbananimalclinic.com and click on the Online Store box.

What's New at Suburban?

- Thanks to all who helped us celebrate the 50th year of Suburban Animal Clinic in 2010. Our final contest winners were Linda Gosiorowski (OSU football tickets) and Angie Jones with her dog Tra's Halloween costume. We are looking forward to this 51st year of serving our clients and patients.

- Suburban's Pet Pictures with Santa on December 3rd and 4th helped to raise \$600.00 for the Capital Area Humane Society. Thanks for your generous support.

- In addition to the pet related services listed in the last newsletter, client Rick Buchanan offers professional pet photography. For more information go to www.rickbuchananphotography.com/petportraits.php.

- High Tech! Suburban Animal Clinic now has an iPad loaded with a Diagnostic Imaging Atlas program that can show you disease problems, anatomy and we can even e-mail you fact sheets from the programs library. We know more veterinary associated "apps" will be available for future educational use.

- Feline Revolution, the once a month topical heartworm prevention and parasite control now comes in a size for 15-22# cats.

- We welcome any donations of blankets or throws to help keep our hospitalized patients warm and comfortable.

- As mentioned in the last newsletter, after some delay, Anne's book "Life with Lilly" is finally here! You can find copies available at Suburban Animal Clinic or online at Amazon and Barnes and Noble.

Veterinary Pet Insurance New Look

Veterinary Pet Insurance(VPI) has a new look and website with tons of information about keeping your pet healthier. They also have multiple insurance options to help you protect your pet with unforeseen medical or surgical care. Go to PetInsurance.com for information.