

Avoid “Sticker Shock”

Tough financial times have affected us all, including our pets in some ways. Even with tighter budgets, our pets deserve top line medical care when they need it and annual preventative care to keep them healthy. Here are a few options to ease the cost of veterinary care.

Care Credit is a third party payment plan set up in similar fashion to a credit card. Unlike a typical credit card; however, Care Credit may only be used at a medical facility, such as a Doctor, Dentist, or a Veterinary facility. A simple application can be completed at any participating medical office or at their website. Carecredit.com offers an online application for instant approval. This card can be used the same as any credit card and even has promotions for 0% interest if the amount borrowed is paid in full within a designated time frame.

CareCredit®
Patient Payment Plans

There are a variety of Pet Insurance companies available for veterinary expenses. A few available pet insurance companies include Home Again, American Kennel Club, and VPI Pet Insurance. They do not work at the same scale as human plans, rather they reimburse you for procedures and medications according to their guidelines.

Rather than paying the full amount of annual preventative care or other elective procedures all at once, try making small monthly payments ahead of time. There is no fee for “pre-paying” and at the time of the procedure, you have no out of pocket expense. Think of it like a savings account. Also, consider separating your pets annual visit into 2 bi-yearly visits. This will split up the entire cost of exam, parasite exams, and all the vaccines at once, while allowing the Doctor to get a glimpse of your pet more than once a year to get to know their “normal” better.

LCAH has several cost saving opportunities through out the year to take advantage of. February is national dental health awareness month and all dental procedures are 15% off. One week in April and one week in October, all vaccines and exams are discounted. Rabies vaccines approved for one year are only \$5.00 during these weeks. We also offer a feline spay/ neuter month, where these procedures are greatly reduced. Check out our Facebook for exclusive fan offers and coupons. Please support the small town and small businesses when considering shopping online. You might be surprised at our competitive prices and in-clinic specific coupons!

Do You Facebook?



We would like to extend an invitation to our clients who live for status updates, fan pages, and new photos. LCAH is now coming into the modern world with our very own Facebook Page!

Staying connected to our clients and patients is our goal, and by using Facebook, we can now keep you current on new medical treatments, diseases going around in our area, and much more. In addition, you can ask us questions, post pet pictures, and stories in our area. For those who “like” our page, we will periodically post Facebook Fan posts and specials. Exclusive coupons and specials. Our page is also a great way for you to get to know our staff.



Please spread the word for all your friends and family to “like” Lyon County Animal Hospital’s Facebook page! Even a few of our patients (i.e. dogs and cats) have their very own facebook profiles and follow our page!



Boarding Facility Now Open!
Let your pet's stay safe with us while you travel!
All day activity, medical staff on hand, full service grooming available, daily picture text messages, and much more!

Spring Rabies Clinic will be March 31– April 7!

Lyon County Animal Hospital

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Lyon County Animal Hospital

February– April 2012

Around the Watering Bowl

A Quarterly Newsletter



Inside:

-February is National Dental Month!
-LCAH gets a new Veterinary Intern
-New ways to afford Veterinary Care on any budget

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Keeping Those Pearly Whites Pearly

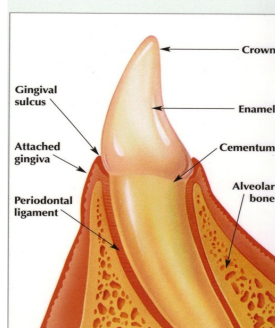


Dental care is often ignored or overlooked with our pets. In fact, dental disease affects nearly 80% of dogs and 70% of cats! The most commonly diagnosed disease amongst domestic pets is ironically the easiest to prevent. Think about it; we brush our teeth typically twice a day, we use floss and mouth wash, and we see a dentist routinely for preventative

care. What about our pets? Putting aside the size and shape, a dog or cat's mouth is made up of the same structural components as our mouth. Just imagine not brushing your teeth for 3 years!

With annual dental cleanings performed by your veterinarian, and a structured dental home care plan in place, your pet will live a longer, happier life. Read further to understand the importance of dental care.

Parts of a Canine Tooth



Each day, the teeth are exposed to bacteria and debris that enter the mouth. When these components combine with the saliva in the mouth, TARTAR is formed and adheres close to the gum line on the teeth. Tartar is the culprit for halitosis, or bad breath. Over time, this buildup weakens the bond between the gum and tooth, causing loose teeth and recessed gums. When the gums become inflamed and separated from the teeth, bacteria is allowed to cause irreversible damage to the tooth structure and is able to enter the systemic blood stream. In fact, bacteria from the mouth can lead to serious heart, liver, and kidney disease. Pets can also experience retained deciduous teeth, malocclusions, cavities, and fractured teeth that need medical attention.

The goal of a dental hygiene regimen is to reduce the number of bacteria in the mouth before damage is done to the teeth and mouth.

Does your pet have-

Bad Breath
Trouble Eating, Weight loss

Red or Swollen Gums
Excess salivation

If you answered yes to any of these, your pet suffers from Dental Disease and needs a Dental Cleaning!

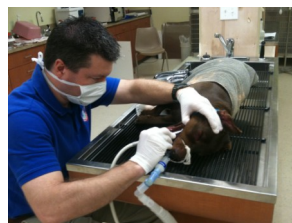
What to expect from a Dental Cleaning



We use the same instruments as your Dentist!

Don't be scared away by infomercials that make dental procedures sound expensive and risky to your pet's health. Sedation dentistry is a rising trend amongst human practitioners, and we're beginning to think they got the idea from the veterinary world. Not too often is "Fluffy" going to willingly let us see or touch her teeth, unless she intends to break skin! Let's walk through the procedure from start to finish. We will use "Fluffy" as an example.

1. Fluffy will be dropped off with us first thing in the morning, and any examination or lab work needed will be performed.
2. Fluffy will then be sedated using a safe and fast acting anesthetic. Gas anesthesia will be closely monitored to maintain her sedation.
3. A comprehensive exam is completed of the gums, teeth, and mouth. An ultrasonic scaler is used to remove any tartar buildup.
4. Any teeth that need extensive care are then addressed.
5. The teeth are then polished, and a fluoride treatment is applied.
6. Fluffy is then removed from anesthesia and will awake within a few deep breaths.



Dr. Davis performing a dental cleaning.

Throughout the procedure, our Licensed staff closely monitors each pet and addresses their needs. From start to finish, a routine dental cleaning takes only about 20 minutes, and pets are ready to go home shortly after. See immediate results!



Dog's Teeth Before Dental Cleaning



Dog's Teeth After Dental Cleaning

You can prevent dental disease at home with Dental Chews, Oral Rinses, and even brushing your pet's teeth!

A New Face at LCAH...

We are excited to have a veterinary preceptor from Tuskegee University join us in February. Jennifer Barber Jones, a fourth-year student of Tuskegee University School of Veterinary Medicine, will be with us from February 13-25. She has requested to spend part of her time here at LCAH because of her interest in veterinary acupuncture. Jennifer is planning to study veterinary acupuncture at the Chi Institute in Florida after graduation from veterinary school in May. She is excited to have the opportunity to learn from Dr. Davis during her time here.

During those two weeks, Dr. Davis would like her to observe him treating as many acupuncture patients as possible. We are looking for patients in need of acupuncture treatments (arthritis, allergies, seizures, as well as many other medical problems). We would like to extend an invitation to schedule appointments for your pet to have treatments with acupuncture at a discounted rate while Jennifer is visiting. **All acupuncture treatments will be discounted** (\$40 for first acupuncture treatment/consultation and \$30 for returning acupuncture patients) if you mention the newsletter when making your appointment. This will allow you and your pet to see the benefits of acupuncture at an exceptional price!

Jennifer Barber Jones is from Tallahassee, Florida. She moved to Kentucky in 2002 to attend Murray State University where she earned a BS in Science (Pre-Vet) and a MS in Agriculture (Animal Health). While attending Murray State, Jennifer met and married Daniel Jones of Calvert City, KY. She has an "awesome" step daughter, Tessa, two dogs, and a 16-year-old cat. She hopes to add a dressage horse to the family soon after graduation in 2012. She plans to return to Calvert City and work in private practice after graduation.

SPECIALS!

February Dental Month Discount
15%off ALL Dental Cleanings!

Facebook Fan Exclusive Coupons

Frontline- buy 3 get 1, buy 6 get 2

Revolution buy 6 get 1, buy 10 get 2

Acupuncture Discounts Feb13-25

Rabies Clinic March 31- April 7