

(February 4, 2009 Stillwater, OK) – The Oklahoma State University Center for Veterinary Health Sciences is recognizing National Pet Dental Health Month 2009 during the month of February. In support of this event, the OSU Boren Veterinary Teaching Hospital will provide a free dental care starter kit for all pets that receive a wellness exam during the month of February.

According to Community Practice veterinarian Dr. Paul DeMars regular dental care contributes positively to overall good health in pets.

“Pets need regular professional dental care from a veterinarian as well as care at home from their owners,” explains DeMars. “A veterinarian can show pet owners how to care for their animals’ teeth.”

DeMars suggests three easy steps for a successful pet dental health regime:

1. Take your pet to the veterinarian for a dental exam or combine it with the pet’s annual wellness visit
2. Begin a dental care regimen at home, which can include brushing your pet’s teeth or feeding specially formulated foods proven to be effective in combating plaque and tartar buildup
3. Schedule regular veterinary checkups, which is important to help monitor your pet’s dental health

Products that meet defined standards for plaque and tartar control in dogs and cats will always carry the seal of acceptance from the Veterinary Oral Health Council. This organization was established by the American Veterinary Dental Society to help guide consumers with regard to proper dental products for their pet.

The Oklahoma State University Center for Veterinary Health Sciences is one of 28 veterinary colleges in the United States and is fully accredited by the Council on Education of the American Veterinary Medical Association. The center’s Boren Veterinary Medical Teaching Hospital is open to the public and provides routine and specialized care for small and large animals. It also offers 24 hour emergency care and is certified by the American Animal Hospital Association. For more information, visit www.cvhs.okstate.edu or call (405) 744-7000.

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