

Teeth Brushing Workshop

While your guide’s teeth should be brushed at least 3 times a week, daily teeth brushing is encouraged for optimal care. Use veterinary approved toothpaste only – never use your own personal toothpaste.

Technique

* Establish a routine of brushing your guide’s teeth with a soft toothbrush
* All guides are accustomed to teeth brushing. If, however, you want to start slowly with your guide, start the brushing routine by thinly coating the brush with some toothpaste and allow your dog to lick the brush. Then, lift your dog’s lips and brush the teeth as your guide tries to lick the brush.
* Brush your guide’s teeth in a similar manner as you care for your own teeth – Circular motions and along gum line.
* Dental tartar readily accumulates on the back molars – remember to pull up the lips to allow the toothbrush to get to the back teeth
* ***If*** you can brush the inside of the arcade (side of teeth that surround the palate and tongue), do so. Be careful that your fingers don’t get inside the mouth between the teeth. Also, proceed carefully to minimize gag and bruising in your dog.

When is it time to seek veterinary attention?

* Prolonged halitosis
* Drooling
* Unwillingness to eat dry kibble or chew on NLWD approved toys
* A noticeable fractured tooth