

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Dog Breath and Beyond

NAPPS Recognizes Pet Dental Health Month with Year-Round Tips for Pet Parents

MOUNT LAUREL, N.J. February 4, 2013 – Perhaps it's the initial whiff of bad breath or the flash of your pet's discolored teeth that prompted a phone call to the veterinarian. Dental health, often neglected or overlooked when caring for a pet, is a vital component to the well-being of animals. The National Association of Professional Pet Sitters (NAPPS), a nonprofit trade association dedicated to promoting the welfare of animals, is reminding pet parents to maintain the care of Fido and Fluffy's teeth during Pet Dental Health Month and all year round.

"Just like their human counterparts, pets require regular dental care," said Sherry L. Suhosky, president of NAPPS. "It's important for pet parents to schedule yearly dental cleanings and practice regular, preventative care at home."

To help pet parents protect their furry loved one's dental health, NAPPS offers these tips:

- **Partner** – Work with your veterinarian to develop proper at-home dental treatment, such as brushing and teeth-friendly chewable items.
- **Examine** – Regularly examine your pet's teeth and gums, noting any changes in color, redness, or sensitivity.
- **Smell** – Have you noticed a sudden change in your pet's breath? Foul breath can often signal infection, and it's important to schedule a veterinarian appointment soon to explore the source.
- **Observe** – Monitor your pet's behavior during meal time. Does he or she show signs of pain while chewing?
- **Schedule** – Plan regular visits to the veterinarian for dental cleaning.

Without proper dental care, infections can spread to other organs, creating serious health issues for your pet. By working with a veterinarian to identify the proper year-round dental solutions, pet parents be sure that Fido and Fluffy's teeth remain healthy and strong.

About NAPPS: NAPPS is the only national nonprofit trade association dedicated to serving the needs of professional pet sitters. The Association aims to help the pet owning public, those interested in pet sitting, and professionals engaged in the in-home pet care industry by fulfilling its vision statement, serving as "the most respected authority in professional pet sitting." It does so by providing the tools and support to foster the success of its members. Additionally, pet parents can benefit from NAPPS' free resources including a disaster preparedness guide, tips on how to select a pet sitter, and a nationwide referral service,. To find a pet sitter in your area, check out NAPPS' nationwide "Pet Sitter Locator" at www.petsitters.org. For more information on NAPPS, please follow [@TheNAPPS](https://twitter.com/TheNAPPS) on Twitter or join us on Facebook at facebook.com/TheNAPPS.

#

Media Contact:

Caitlin Watterson

Communications Coordinator

856-642-4218

cwatterson@ahint.com