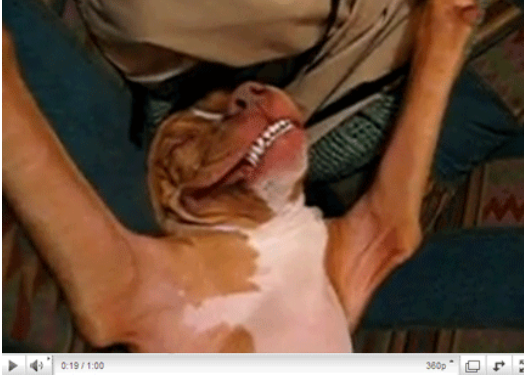


Video of the month



DOGGY BREATH & DENTAL HEALTH

The early morning light filters through the shade and makes long lines across my bed. I roll over, stretching, not yet ready to wake up. The warm little ball that is my Yorkshire Terrier starts to wiggle under the covers by my feet. He pushes his way through the heavy blankets, and pokes his nose into the cool, fresh air. I find his back with my hand, keeping my eyes closed as I scratch him, both of us enjoying a quiet moment before the start of the day. Finally, he reaches out with his front feet in a perfect downward dog. As he stretches he yawns, jaw wide, canines bared, with his face close to mine.



“Uh,” I say into the room, the quiet moment gone, “what are we going to do about your breath?”

“Doggie breath” and “kitty breath” are often thought of as a normal part of pet ownership, but halitosis (bad breath) is actually a symptom of a much bigger problem. Caused by the build-up of plaque, a sticky bacteria, food, and saliva cocktail that builds up on teeth, chronic halitosis will lead to gingivitis, periodontal disease, cavities, and broken teeth. If left untreated, the bacteria found in plaque can make their way into your pet’s blood stream causing irreversible heart, liver, kidney, and respiratory system damage. Proper dental care is just as important as diet and exercise for the well-being of your pet.

If your pet has chronic halitosis, you should schedule a visit with your veterinarian to assess its oral health. Other symptoms to look out for include the following:

- Yellow brown crust of tartar along the gum line
- Pain or bleeding when gum line or mouth is touched
- Decreased appetite
- Tenderness when chewing hard foods
- Poor coat condition in cats (due to lack of grooming)

If your pet has clean white teeth and no halitosis, it is still important to commit to regular oral care. Prevention is the key to a lifetime of good dental health, and tooth brushing should become a regular part of your routine. Using pet specific tooth brushes and enzymatic toothpastes are critical to success. Never brush your pet’s teeth with toothpaste formulated for humans. If you are wondering how to brush your dog’s teeth check out this [video](#). It’s really pretty easy and doesn’t take a great deal of time. Another easy way to prevent plaque build-up is to avoid feeding your pet any processed human food. Human food tends to have a lot of sugar, and the bacteria that lead to severe health issues thrive on high sugar diet.

Middle aged, geriatric, and pets that are prone to dental problems as a result of diet or genetics may have to see a veterinarian regularly to prevent the problems associated with plaque and gum disease. It is a good idea for all pet owners to have their animal’s mouths examined once a year so that problems can be caught early.

Valentines Survey

Puppy Love

How does your pet show its love?

- Sloppy wet kisses
- Loving gaze into your eyes
- Play growling & barking
- Rolling onto their back

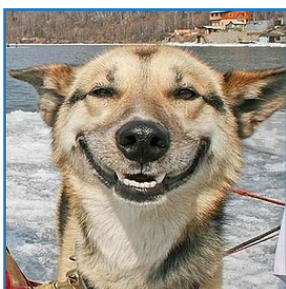
Upcoming events

02/12/11

Low Cost Dental Clinic

Eastside Bend Pet Express

10am - 1:30pm \$20.00 exam



02/26/11

Low Cost Shot & Microchip Clinic

Eastside Bend Pet Express

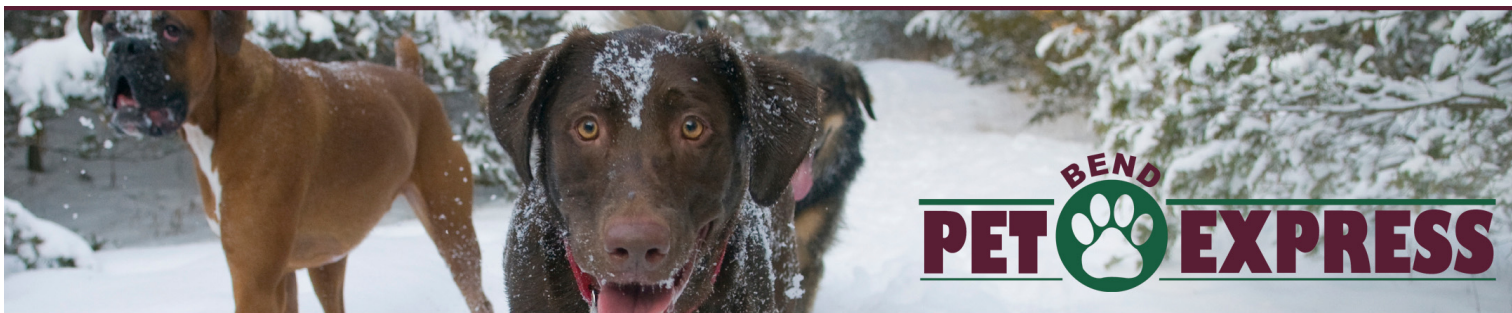
10 am - 1:30pm

02/27/11

Puppy Party!

Eastside & Westside Bend Pet

Express 3pm



Up for Adoption

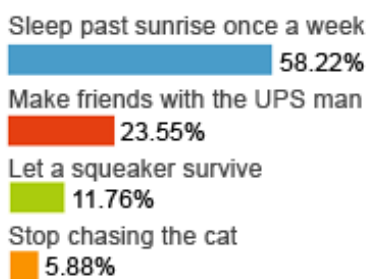


Sugar w/All for Dogs Rescue

Sugar is just like her name ... sweet as can be! She is affectionate, walks well on a leash and has great manners. So, if you've got love in your heart and are looking for a sweetie pie, Sugar is the girl for you! [see her profile here.](#)

Survey Results

My Pets New Years Resolution is:



Facebook Fans!

Help us hit **500 fans** by suggesting us to your friends, and Post a picture of your dogs smile for our **Facebook Smiling dog Contest**. Check out our page [here](#).



FEATURED PRODUCTS

“Made in Bend” Antlers

We have been loving our deer antler dog chews for a while now , but we are excited that we finally found some made/harvested locally! They are naturally shed, and one of the longest lasting chews out there. They have no odor and last for weeks! The best part is dogs love them! We have options for all size dogs available.



Pet Kiss

Pet Kiss is an all natural plaque and tartar control supplement. Help to keep both dogs and cats teeth and gums healthy. Just put a few drops of the odorless, tasteless Pet Kiss in your pets water daily. Its that easy!

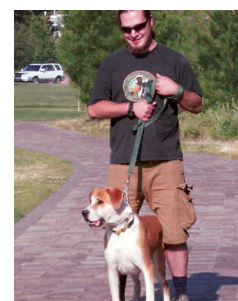
Natures Variety dog & cat food

Natures Variety is one of our all time favorite foods. They offer 7 different varieties and have designed their food around a rotation diet. All their foods are all natural US sourced and rich in meat, poultry or fish proteins. They are free of corn, wheat, soy, chemical preservatives, and artificial colors & flavors. They have both grain-free and grain options and work really well for a wide range of pets. They are also the sponsor behind the Humane Society's free bag of food for new pets program here in Central Oregon.



STAFF PICK - Chris Abernathy

Many of you know Chris Abernathy from our TV and Radio ads and our Eastside store. With all the publicity Chris says that people stop him all the time to ask him “What do you feed your dog?” For his Lab/St. Bernard mix, Donner, Chris feeds Nature's Variety Prairie dry dog food. “I love all the options I have feeding their food. Their 5 different available proteins and diverse grains made rotating food a breeze, which helps Donner from getting burned out on a certain flavor” It also is a great option for his cat Miles. “My picky cat Miles loves the Instinct rabbit. It is one of the only foods that keeps his interest for the whole bag!” So there you go, Natures Variety the food of the stars.



What about Chris' favorite new product? Hands down he says it is the new Made in Bend Antlers. “Donner is a super chewer! He can go through most chews in a few minutes! The antlers (deer and elk) last him for weeks and he absolutely loves them. They don't make a mess (other than the drool) and are odor free!” Thanks Chris!

COMMUNITY PARTNER SPOTLIGHT

Free Kibble - www.FreeKibble.com

Freekibble.com's primary mission is to provide healthy, nutritious food to the dogs and cats at shelters. Now, in addition to providing free kibble to the Humane Society of Central Oregon, Mimi and Freekibble are feeding many 1,000's of dogs and cats in shelters, rescues and through food-banks across the country.

