

News From the Office of:



Dr. Joseph A. DeLapa

Welcome to our latest newsletter. This issue includes articles about some basic habits we should all remember to ensure good oral health, from eating well to taking the time to clean our entire mouth – from teeth to tongue – properly.

We'd also like to take this opportunity to thank all of you who have recommended our dental services to other family members, and to your friends and neighbors too. We truly appreciate your referrals, and view your recommendations as the greatest compliment to the quality of our services!

Remember, with the holidays — and all the accompanying photo opportunities — just around the corner, you or someone you know may be interested in finding out about tooth whitening or other cosmetic improvements. Please call us with your questions!

All the best,

Joseph A. DeLapa, D.D.S.

Dr. Joseph A. DeLapa

PROFESSIONAL SMILES START HERE!



The prevalence of using the Internet for finding out just about everything these days has spawned a whole cache of homemade teeth whitening suggestions. While the appeal of saving money on a homemade solution versus professional tooth whitening may seem tempting to some, it can easily backfire to potentially cause damage to your teeth, gums... and wallet!

Tooth enamel is durable, but can be irreversibly damaged when scrubbed with overly abrasive materials. For example, household baking soda may appear to whiten teeth at first as it removes surface stains, however, with repeated use the enamel will wear away, leaving you with permanent discoloration, sensitive teeth, and the need for restorative dental repairs. Baking soda, salt and peroxide – common ingredients in homemade whiteners – can irritate the throat and stomach if accidentally ingested, while gums can also suffer damage and irritation when subjected to foreign substances.

Tooth whitening kits are rampant in today's retail market, while whitening kiosks – retail franchises run by non-professionals – are popping up in shopping malls all across America. Be very careful with both of these. It's important to recognize that the options available are

designed to be "one size fits all" remedies for discolored teeth, and can cause irritation in the mouth, not to mention provide ineffective results.

Your dentist knows your dental history and is qualified to give you advice on the safest, most effective teeth whitening system for your individual situation, while ensuring that your gums and mouth are properly protected.

Ask us about the best available whitening options and how they would work for you. Or, why not see the difference for yourself! For just \$60, we can create a "before and after" photo of your smile, to show you how you look today and how you could look after undergoing our teeth-whitening treatment.

You only have one smile. Doesn't it deserve the very best care? Let's discuss the safest, most effective, professional teeth whitening process for you!

VIVE LA DIFFERENCE!



When it comes to missing teeth, research from the American Academy of Periodontology finds:

- 74 percent of women would be embarrassed by a missing tooth, a possible consequence of periodontal disease, compared to 57 percent of men.
- Women are almost twice as likely than men to notice missing teeth on another person.

It's important to recognize that consistent dental habits, including daily brushing and flossing, are the first line of defense against tooth loss from gum disease. If you or a loved one have already lost one or more teeth, however, you'll want to find out about your tooth replacement options.

A dental implant, along with a crown, can replace a missing

tooth in the most natural-looking, and naturally functioning way. It's important to remember that a missing tooth is more than just a cosmetic imperfection – a gap between your teeth can influence the positions of other teeth, causing them to drift out of position and potentially change your bite, which may lead to gum disease, pain in the jaw joint and even more problems.

Research from the American Dental Association shows that, overall, people ranked a smile as the most attractive physical feature in others. Both men and women would agree that an appealing smile is a complete smile, with every tooth in place. Please talk to us about how to complete your smile with beautiful, permanent dental implants.

WHAT'S YOUR IDEAL SMILE?

Each person's idea of a perfect smile can differ greatly depending on a number of factors, including age, culture and social and professional circles.

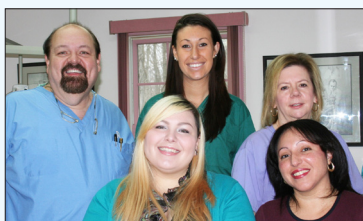
Is your ideal smile comprised of:

- Your existing smile, just whiter?
- Teeth that are straighter, longer, shorter or more evenly aligned?
- Larger teeth, or teeth that don't have noticeable spaces between them?
- More proportionally balanced gums and teeth?

The best place to start is with a dental consultation, where we will discuss your smile and find out what you'd like to improve. In the simplest cases, you may be happy to brighten your smile slightly with a thorough removal of surface stains, while in other cases, you may be dreaming of an entire smile makeover.

Please call to discuss what's involved in creating the whiter, straighter, more complete smile that you've been dreaming of.

Joseph A. DeLapa, D.D.S.



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Office Team:

Christine • *Office Manager/Dental Assistant*
Maureen • *Office Administrator*
Sophie • *Registered Dental Hygienist*
Elisa • *Office Administrator*

Our Services Include:

• General Dentistry • Cosmetic Dentistry
• Emergency Dental Care • Oral Surgery
• Bad Breath Advice & Treatment
• Tooth Whitening • Denture Fittings
• Dental Implants • Bonding & Veneers
• Crowns & Bridges • Invisalign® Orthodontics
• BOTOX® Cosmetic • Juvéderm® Injectable Gel

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