

Tick Identification

Deer, Dog, & Lone Star Ticks

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Deer Ticks
Actual Size

Female
3 to 3.7 mm

Male
2 to 2.7 mm

Nymph
1.3 to 1.7 mm

Larvae
0.7 to 0.8 mm

Dog Ticks
Actual Size

Female
5-6 mm

Male
5-6 mm

Lone Star Ticks
Actual Size

Male **Female**
3-4 mm

Blacklegged Tick "Deer Tick"

Dog Tick

Lone Star Tick

Western Blacklegged Tick

Rocky Mountain Wood Tick

CDC Images

Tick Removal

Using a pair of fine pointed tweezers, grasp the tick as close to the skin as possible, and pull straight up with a steady motion. It may take several minutes for the tick to release. Do not use vasoline or a lit match, and avoid twisting or squeezing the tick with your fingers as this may inject the content of the tick's gut into your bloodstream.

After removal...clean and disinfect the area.
Mark the date on a calendar.
Prepare the tick for submission.
Contact your physician or veterinarian if symptoms develop.

Education & Awareness are key!

Tick Submission

Record of tick removal

Date ___/___/___ Time _____ tick was removed.

Tick was attached to ___ Person ___ Animal ___ Not Attached

Age of person _____ ___ Male ___ Female

Body part attached to _____

Visible rash? ___ Yes ___ No Symptoms? _____

If found on animal ___ Dog ___ Cat Other _____

Town where tick acquired _____ State _____

Sample Preparation

Place the tick to be identified in a small crush proof container. Insert the container inside a small zip-loc bag and mail with the appropriate tick submission form to your state agency or diagnostic laboratory.

Services provided by various state agencies and/or diagnostic laboratories vary from simple tick identification to complete pathogen analysis. A partial list of testing labs, services and associated fees is available at www.mainelyticks.com

Lyme disease is the most frequently reported vector-borne illness in the United States. In some endemic areas, as many as 40-70% of blacklegged ticks are infected with the *Borrelia burgdorferi* bacteria. While Lyme is endemic in the Northeast and Upper Midwest, other tick-borne diseases are also prevalent in these and other parts of the United States.

By utilizing a combination of education and awareness, landscape modifications, personal protection strategies and the proper and timely removal of attached ticks, you can significantly reduce your chances of contracting tick-borne diseases.

The single most important step in reducing your chances of contracting tick-borne illnesses is the daily tick check. Be sure to check yourself, your children and pets after spending time outdoors in tick endemic areas. Use the sensitivity of your fingertips to feel for small bumps, starting with a thorough inspection of the scalp, in and around the ears, hairline and neck, arms, armpits, back (full length mirror or partner to assist), torso, belly button, entire groin area front and back, between all skin folds, legs, behind the knees and between your toes.

A thorough tick check should take at least 30-45 seconds. Don't just look...feel...this is the actual size of the nymph deer tick.

Mainely Ticks

Mainely Ticks is a family owned and operated pest control business located in Southern Maine. Since 2004, they have distributed over 58,000 tick identification guides and education brochures to residents of Southern Maine and surrounding areas. Visit their website for information on:

- Personal Protection Strategies
- Landscape Modifications
- The Life Cycle of the Deer Tick
- Tick-borne Diseases
- Symptoms
- Tick Submission Information
- Links & Downloads

Products available online for individuals, retailers, health-care professionals and support groups include:

- Fine Pointed Magnified Tweezers
- Tick Identification Guides,
- Tick Identification, Removal and Submission Kits

www.mainelyticks.com
1-877-332-3842

Mainely Ticks

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