WHAT ABOUT TICKS?

The blacklegged, or "deer" tick is considered a three stage tick. Larva, nymph. and adult ticks can all feed off of different hosts. This makes them prone to infection.

Typically Ticks must be attached to humans for at least 24hours before they begin transmitting the bacteria that causes Lyme Disease. However, the likelihood of infection increases steadily the longer the tick is attached.

Checking for ticks and prompt removal of attached ticks is one of the most and effective methods of preventing infection!

Ticks are most active in the spring (March to May) and again in the fall (October to December).

pictures enlarged for clarity |

MISCONCEPTIONS ABOUT TICKS

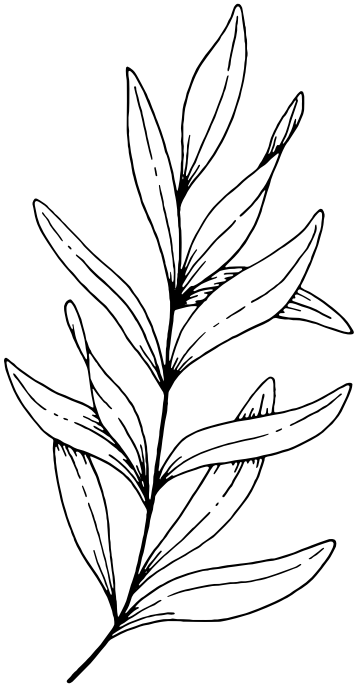
Ticks can jump!	Instead, they patiently sit on low vegetation or crawl around the ground.
Burning them works better than tweezers.	In addition to being potentially painful and dangerous, this method also puts you at a higher risk of infection.
You can feel a tick bite when it happens.	The majority of tick bites are painless, so unless you're looking for it, a tick might linger undiscovered on your body for days or however long it takes to get its fill without you noticing.

CORNELL COOPERATIVE EXTENSION

FOR MORE INFORMATION ON DEER TICKS SCAN THE QR CODE

TICK PREVENTION AND RESOURCES

ONONDAGA COUNTY OFFICE OF ENVIRONMENT



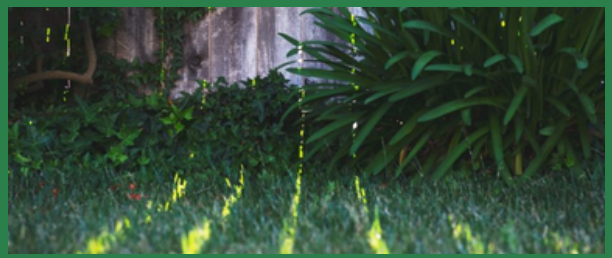
John H. Mulroy Civic Center
421 Montgomery Street, 14th Floor
Syracuse, NY 13202

Office Hours:
Monday-Friday
9:00am - 5:00pm

Telephone:
315.435.2647
Fax Number:
315.435.8582

HOW TO PREVENT TICK BITES

- Treat clothing and gear with a CDC approved insecticide such as permethrin.
- Use a repellent containing DEET. Repellents with DEET can be applied to exposed skin and clothing to help repel ticks. Follow the label instructions.
- Tuck your shirt into you pants and your pants into you socks.
- Minimize direct contact with ticks. Avoid wooded and bushy areas with high grass and leaf litter and walk in the center of trails.
- Always check for ticks immediately after outdoor activity and again at bed time. Check your groin, neck, ears, armpits and back of knees.



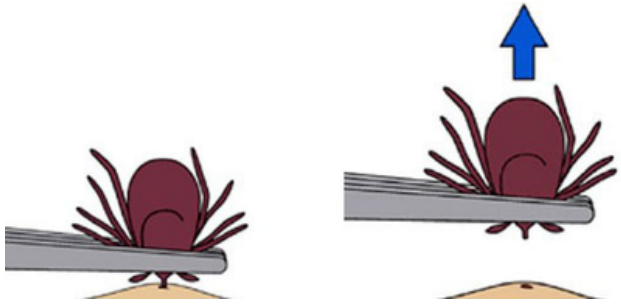
WHAT DO I DO IF I FIND A TICK?

Don't panic if you find an attached tick. Promptly remove the attached tick.

1. Use clean, fine-tipped tweezers to grasp the tick as close to the skin's surface as possible.

2. Pull upward with steady, even pressure. Don't twist or jerk the tick; this can cause the mouth-parts to break off and remain in the skin. If this happens, remove the mouth-parts with tweezers. If you cannot remove the mouth easily with tweezers, leave it alone and let the skin heal.

3. After removing the tick, thoroughly clean the bite area and your hands with rubbing alcohol or soap and water.

4. Never crush a tick with your fingers. Dispose of a live tick by
   - Putting it in alcohol,
   - Placing it in a sealed bag/container,
   - Wrapping it tightly in tape, or
   - Flushing it down the toilet

5. Notify your primary care provider that you removed a tick. Look out for symptoms of infection; bullseye rash, fatigue, headache, fever, and joint pain.