

WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW ABOUT

Ticks



PREVENTION

Ticks attach to their host by inserting their mouthparts into the skin and feed on the blood of their host.²

To reduce the chances of tick-borne diseases:

- ✓ Check animals daily, especially after they are outdoors
- ✓ Immediately remove any ticks that are found
- ✓ Discuss the use of tick preventatives with your vet¹

3 TIPS FOR REMOVAL

1. **Fine-pointed tweezers** are best to use to remove a tick once it is attached. Incorrectly pulling off an attached tick can leave the head and/or mouthparts still attached to the animal.

2. **Sticky duct tape** will remove tick larvae before they bite.

3. **Put clothing directly into a hot dryer** and run for 15 minutes; the ticks will desiccate.²

LANDSCAPING TIPS TO REDUCE THE CHANCES OF HAVING TICKS IN YOUR YARD

- Mow grass frequently, and keep brush and bushes trimmed
- Rake and remove fallen leaves
- Store stacked wood in a dry area to deter wildlife nesting areas
- Construct a 3-foot wide barrier of gravel or wood chips between lawn and wooded areas
- Discourage deer, raccoon, and stray animals from entering yard:
 - Fence area
 - Promptly remove uneaten food of outside pets
 - Tightly bag trash and place in lidded cans out of reach of stray and wild animals.³

DISEASES

Ticks carry vector-borne diseases that can pose a serious health threat to humans and animals

WHAT TYPES OF DISEASES DO TICKS CARRY?

- **Lyme Disease**
- **Rocky Mountain Spotted Fever**
- **Tularemia**
- **Anaplasmosis**
- **Babesiosis**
- **Ehrlichiosis**
- **STARI**

The bite from one tick can pass on multiple diseases.⁴

SYMPTOMS

Symptoms may not appear for 7-21 days after a tick bite. Watch for changes in behavior or appetite if you suspect your pet has had a tick bite.

SYMPTOMS FOR HUMANS AND PETS:

- **Fever/chills**
- **Headache, fatigue, joint pain, muscle aches**
- **Rash**
- **Anemia**
- **Paralysis**
- **Lameness⁴**

After feeding, the blood-engorged adult female can lay from 3,000 to 6,000 eggs²



Have pets tested once a year for internal parasites by a veterinarian⁴

1. [cdc.gov/ticks/avoid/on_pets.html](https://www.cdc.gov/ticks/avoid/on_pets.html)

2. [tickcounter.org/tick_notes_detick_with_duct_tape#top](https://www.tickcounter.org/tick_notes_detick_with_duct_tape#top)

3. [cdc.gov/ticks/avoid/in_the_yard.html](https://www.cdc.gov/ticks/avoid/in_the_yard.html)

4. [cdc.gov/ticks/symptoms.html](https://www.cdc.gov/ticks/symptoms.html)