

Tick Awareness for People, Pets, and Livestock

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Tick ID

OHIO STATE UNIVERSITY EXTENSION


Tick Identification and Disease Information

Ticks are blood-feeding parasites that may infect people and pets with diseases. Tick attachment for at least a day is necessary for disease transmission. For more information: u.osu.edu/tick.
Photos courtesy of Tick Research Lab, Texas A&M University.

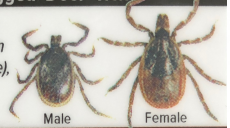
Black Legged 'Deer' Tick

Can transmit Lyme Disease (most often by the nymph stage), Anaplasmosis, Babesiosis

Actual Size



2-4 mm unfed




Male Female

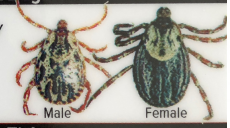
American Dog Tick

Can transmit Rocky Mountain Spotted Fever

Actual Size



1.5-7 mm unfed




Male Female


Lone Star Tick

Can transmit Ehrlichiosis, Heartland Virus

Actual Size



2-6 mm unfed




Male Female

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How to Remove a Tick

1. Do not crush or puncture.
2. Grasp near head using pointy tweezers, or finger and thumb and pull it straight with steady, even pressure.
3. Thoroughly wash the bite site, hands and tools.
4. Place tick in container with rubbing alcohol. Take tick with you to a doctor if you develop flu-like symptoms/rash.



Tick Prevention

- Do frequent tick checks.
- Apply a tick repellent (25% DEET or Permethrin). Follow directions.
- Wear light-colored clothing, a long-sleeved shirt, and long pants. Tuck pants into socks, and tuck shirt into pants.
- Protect pets with an anti-tick product recommended by veterinarian.
- Keep dogs on leash and avoid weeds.

For more information go to u.osu.edu/tick

The pocket Tick ID card available at the OSU Extension Office in Hillsboro, Ohio.

Ticks are a problem for humans, companion animals, and livestock. There has been an increase in tick-vectored diseases over the past few years, which include bacterial diseases, new-vectored viral diseases, and allergic reactions. According to Timothy McDermott, DVM, an OSU Extension Educator in Franklin County, diseases from ticks have increased over time due to the increased habitat and gradual spread of different tick species in Ohio.

As you work in your yard, let your companion animals outside, or tend to your livestock, be sure to check for ticks. Being cognizant of ticks is the first step to decreasing the chances of a tick-vectored disease

for you or for any animal.

Ticks are blood-feeding parasites that spread diseases when attached to a host for at least a day. In Ohio, tick species include the Brown Dog Tick, American Dog tick, Blacklegged or Deer tick, and the Lone Star tick. Each species has a preferred habitat and characteristics. Ideal tick habitats include pastures and meadows, as well as dense woodlands.

When outdoors, people should wear long pants and shirts. Shirts should be tucked into their pants, and pants tucked into socks to reduce the number of opportunities

for ticks to climb onto clothing. People should avoid wooded and bushy areas with high grass and leaf litter. When walking trails, use the center of the trails to avoid contact with tick habitats. Repellants that contain 20 to 30 percent DEET (N, M-diethyl-m-toluamide) can assist in repelling ticks when applied to exposed skin and clothing for protection according to the product label. Clothing can be treated, or purchased pre-treated, with permethrin, which will also repel ticks.

McDermott stated that tick prevention on livestock can be


challenging. He suggests to keep pasture fence lines mowed and to try to minimize exposure of livestock to wild animals who are the preferred blood meal for ticks. If a producer suspects a tick-vectored disease is present in one of their animals, they should contact their veterinarian immediately.

After exposure to a tick habitat, individuals should bathe or shower as soon as possible to wash off and easily locate ticks that may have gotten on your clothing or body. All clothing, supplies, and pets that were in the tick habitat should also be checked. Clothes can be tumbled in a dryer on high heat for an hour to kill any ticks that may have been missed.

For a pocket Tick ID card that identified three species of ticks, removal strategies, and other prevention tips, contact the OSU Extension office in Highland County. The office is located at 119 Governor Foraker Place, Suite 202, Hillsboro, Ohio 45133 and can also be contacted by phone at 937-393-1918.

Follow Us on Social Media

The Ohio State University Extension Office in Highland County has joined social media! Please follow our accounts for updates on Extension programming.

 fb.me/OSUExtHighland

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Leadership Highland

The Highland County Extension Office is in the process of re-establishing Leadership Highland. If you are a previous facilitator or graduate, and are interested in assisting with the new Leadership Highland program, please contact Brooke Beam at 937-393-1918 or beam.49@osu.edu. If you are interested in participating in the new class, look forward to more information coming soon.

Upcoming Events

Highland County Extension Monthly Programming will be held on June 25, 2018, at noon at the Ponderosa Steakhouse. Guest Speaker will be Eric Romich who will present *Solar Energy in Agriculture: Considerations for Investing in Photovoltaic Solar Systems*. RSVP to 937-393-1918. Plan to purchase lunch on your own at Ponderosa Steakhouse.

Trees on Tap will be held at The Ohio State University Mansfield campus on May 23, 2018. Trees on

Tap is a program designed to encourage tree education and care. Topics of the day will highlight the marvels and challenges of tree growth today. The event will be held at The Ohio State University Mansfield campus. Registration is \$40.00, and participants can register at <https://woodlandstewards.osu.edu/events/trees-tap>

The **2018 Small Grains Field Day** will be held on Tuesday, June 12 at the OARDC Schaffter Farm. The cost is \$25 per person and includes lunch for individuals who register before June 4. To register, go to go.osu.edu/2018SmallGrains. OARDC Schaffter Farm is located at 3240 Oil City Road, Wooster, Ohio.

The Fayette County Master Gardener Volunteers will be hosting a **Daylily Show** on Saturday, June 30, 2018. The event is open to the public and exhibitors. The event will be held at the Agricultural Service Center at 1415 U.S. Rt. 22 SW, Washington C.H., Ohio 43160. The event will begin at 9:00 A.M. and conclude at noon. More details can be found at fayette.osu.edu. Additional questions can be directed to Sara Creamer at creamers.70@osu.edu or by phone at 740-335-1150.



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