

Ticks - Be Aware, Be Prepared, Be Safe!

Ticks in the Area



Black-legged
(Deer) Tick



Lonestar
Tick



Gulf Coast
Tick



Dog Tick



Asian
Longhorned
Tick

Going on a Quest: Ticks Habitat

Ticks live in grasses along wood's edges and in meadows. They also live in understory plants and under leaf litter.

Ticks go on quests! Questing is when a tick perches on the tip of a leaf or grass. They wait there to grab onto an animal, such as a deer, mouse, squirrel, or other mammal (including people!) that passes by.



Tick Prevention & Safe Removal

Wear long sleeves

Wear light colors. They help you see ticks better!

Stay on designated trails to avoid tick habitat



Use tick repellant on shoes and legs

Wear close-toed shoes and tall socks



Tick bites on dark and light skin

Remove ticks by grabbing their head, close to your skin, with tweezers. Pull up without twisting or squeezing. Wash the site with soap & water.



Why Do Tick Checks?

After taking a walk near tick habitat, checking for ticks can help you catch and remove them before they bite, which reduces the spread of disease!

A common tick-borne illness is Lyme, spread by the Black-legged Tick.

Watch for these symptoms if bitten!



Ticks & Our Ecosystem

Ticks are an important food source for opossums and other animals. One opossum can eat roughly 4,000 ticks in a single week!



Tick presence can act as a bioindicator of overall ecosystem health. For example, if there are a lot of ticks present, it can mean that there are not a lot of small animal predators.

As human-caused climate change continues, the winters are less cold, meaning that there will be more ticks.