

ATTENTION TO TICK SEASON –PREVENT DISASE

Health and insect experts are calling it a perfect storm of conditions coming together to create a tick population explosion - lack of acorns and the mild winter. Specifically, the mild winter has allowed ticks, much like other insects to thrive and emerge earlier than usual. As for the acorns, oak trees produced an extremely large acorn crop in 2010, which led to a **boom in the white-footed mouse population last year.**

****Mice are carrying ticks that are causing other diseases which are very serious and some worse than Lyme (one is deadly)**

Tick Prevention for You (and Your Pets)

Ticks are small and can be easy to miss, especially if they've latched themselves onto a hairy pet or a spot on a human that's hard to reach or see, such as the top of the head or back **** use a mirror or have family member help look at head and back.**

1] If hiking through the woods, remember to walk in the center of trails 2] Before heading out, dress in long sleeves and pants and consider tucking pant legs into socks, especially if you will be walking in tall grass or wooded areas, or gardening 3] Use a tick repellent containing DEET, following the manufacturer's instructions. 4] Camping gear treated with permethrin

5] At end of the day, perform a thorough tick check - from head to toe.

6] Remove tick with a slow, steady pull so as not to break off the mouthparts and leave them in the skin. 7] Wash hands and bite site thoroughly with soap and water. 8] Flush ticks down the toilet or wrap them tightly in tissue before disposing in a closed receptacle. If you suspect a tick bite, seek medical attention as soon as possible.

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REMOVE TICK WITH A SPECIAL TICK REMOVER OR A POINTED TWEEZER-----**NOT YOUR FINGERS AVOID CRUSHING OR LEAVING HEAD BURRIED

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6/2017