

Rocky Mountain Spotted Fever Prevention

Brown Dog Tick



Have a fever or rash?



Been outside or touching dogs?

Rocky Mountain Wood Tick



American Dog Tick



Contact a doctor or nurse

The Problem:

- Dogs carry ticks.
- Ticks can spread Rocky Mountain Spotted Fever.
- Ticks like wooded areas and low-lying grasslands. They like to wait on low-lying brush and hitchhike onto passing animals or people.
- Ticks can breed in your home and yard.
- Ticks will bite humans. Both immature and adult ticks need to feed on blood.
- Immature ticks can be very small!!
- The longer an infected tick bites you, the greater the chance of infection.

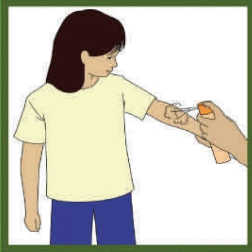
Can you find the tick in this person's hand?



Photo Courtesy of Bob Lane, University of California, Berkeley
http://esom.berkeley.edu/

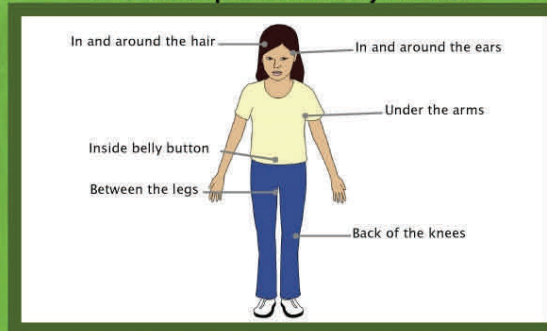
The Solution:

Stop ticks from biting people



Put on insect repellent before you and your family go outside

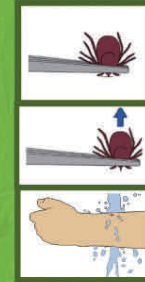
Check these parts of the body for ticks:



Check for ticks on yourself and your family

To Remove Ticks:

Use tweezers and protect bare hands with tissue or gloves. For safe tick removal:



Step 1:
Grab tick close to the skin.

Step 2:
Gently pull straight up until all parts of the ticks are removed. Flush tick down the toilet.

Step 3:
Wash the bite with soap and water.

Take all ticks off people and flush them down the toilet

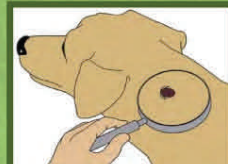
Get rid of ticks on your dog



Put a tick collar on all dogs and replace regularly (Some collars are more effective than others - ask your vet)



Use a spot-on treatment every month, or use a spray or dip regularly



Check dogs for ticks and remove when found - be sure to check between the toes and on the ears

DO NOT use petroleum jelly, fingernail polish, a lit match, or rubbing alcohol to remove ticks. You might make the tick release more fluids back into the bite wound, which can increase the chance of infection.

Get rid of ticks in your yard

- Use do-it-yourself pesticide or hire a pest control service
- Clean up leaf litter - ticks like to rest and find their hosts in leaf litter
- Get rid of unnecessary brush and weeds from your yard
- Keep wood piles away from your house
- Get rid of furniture, cushions and mattresses from your yard and under your house



Place Local Contact Information Here

For more information:
Arizona Department of Health Services, http://www.azdhs.gov/phs/oids/vector/rmsf/rocky_mountain.htm
Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, <http://www.cdc.gov/ncidod/dvrd/rmsf/>
Lyme Disease Foundation, Inc., <http://www.lyme.org/ticks/tick.html>

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Funded by Indian Health Service EPI Grant #U1B94 00002/11

