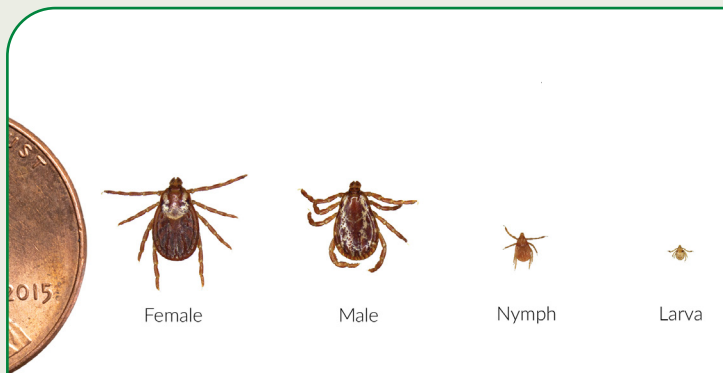


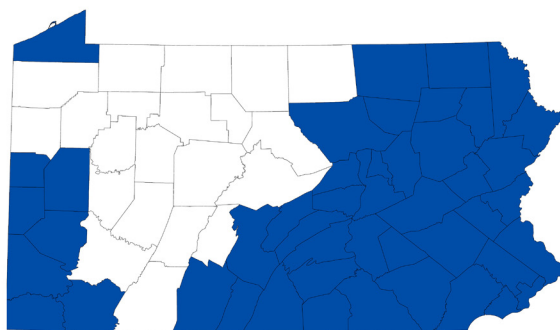
American Dog Tick

Dermacentor variabilis



American dog ticks are commonly found throughout Pennsylvania. Care should always be taken to avoid tick bites when entering tick habitat such as wooded areas or tall grasses.

- American dog ticks can vary in size depending on their life stage.
- Tick life cycle includes egg, larva, nymph, and adult.
- Ticks cannot fly or jump. They search for a meal by questing or holding out their front legs to grab-on to passersby.
- American dog ticks are found in many counties within the Commonwealth.
- These ticks are most active during spring and early summer.



Counties shaded blue indicate where American dog ticks have been collected.

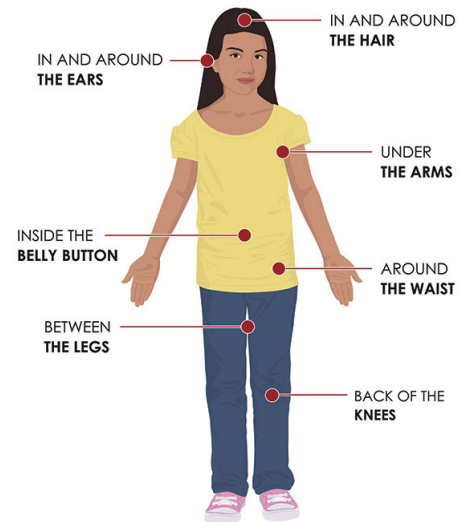


American dog ticks are known to transmit illness to people which include Rocky Mountain Spotted Fever (RMSF) and tularemia.

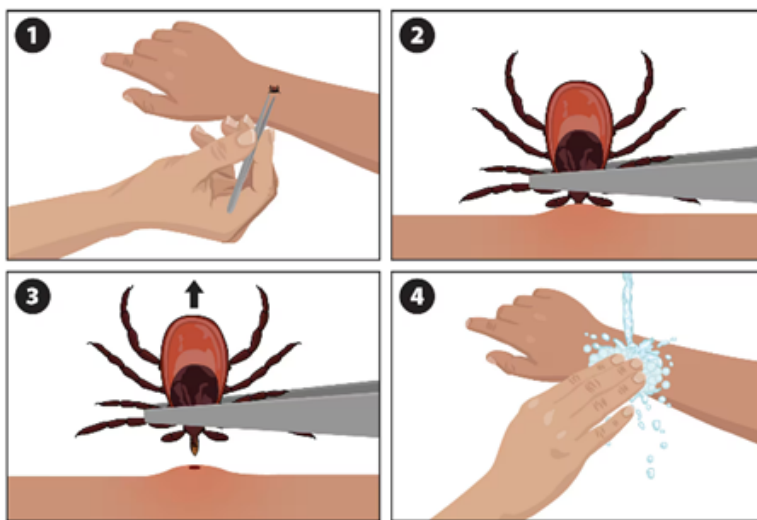
Tick-borne disease symptoms often present as non-specific flu-like symptoms. If you think you may have a tick-borne illness, see your doctor right away.

TICK PREVENTION

- Treat clothing and gear with products containing 0.5% permethrin. Use EPA registered repellents.
- Wear light colored long pants/sleeves while outdoors; tuck pants into socks and shirts into pants.
- Conduct frequent tick checks while spending time outdoors and again after returning home.
- Place clothes into dryer for at least 10 minutes on high heat to kill any ticks that may remain on your clothes.
- Take a shower after returning home from enjoying the outdoors. Showering helps to remove loose ticks that have not attached.



TICK REMOVAL



- Use fine tipped tweezers to grasp the tick close to the skin's surface.
- Pull straight up with steady and even pressure. Do not twist or jerk the tick.
- After removing the tick, clean the bite area and your hands with soap and water.
- Do not burn or apply solutions like Vaseline, nail polish, essential oils, etc., or wait for the tick to drop off itself. Prompt and appropriate removal of the tick will reduce the likelihood of pathogen transmission.



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our website at
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