

YOUR GUIDE TO MANAGING TICKS

Ticks and the pathogens they transmit can cause serious health issues, so it's important to know how to prevent and respond to tick bites. These pests live in and around vegetation, debris and mulch, so any property – commercial or residential – can provide harbourage, especially if there are trees, grass or wooded areas nearby.

COMMON TICKS



BLACKLEGGED TICK (OR DEER TICK)

Habitat: Wooded and vegetated areas
Primary hosts: Deer
Health threats: Lyme disease



BROWN DOG TICK

Habitat: Indoors
Primary hosts: Dogs and other pets
Health threats: Tick paralysis, Rocky Mountain spotted fever

REMOVING TICKS

*Ticks should be removed from people and pets immediately.
To remove a tick:*

1. Grab the tick with tweezers as close to the skin as possible.
2. Pull steadily and firmly outward, being careful not to leave the mouthparts in the skin.
3. Wash off with soap and warm water once the tick is removed.



If you are concerned about a tick bite or experience adverse symptoms, contact a medical professional.

LYME DISEASE

Blacklegged ticks can pick up the bacteria that causes Lyme disease if they feed on infected deer or rodents. Lyme disease is a bacterial disease that causes flu-like symptoms in the short-term. However, some people show little or no symptoms, making the disease hard to detect. If left untreated, Lyme disease can cause brain damage and serious heart conditions.

PREVENTING BITES

While ticks are not seasonal pests, they are more problematic in the spring and summer when people are spending more time outdoors. Here are a few things you can do to help prevent tick bites:



- Keep grass mowed, remove weeds and prune bushes and shrubs.



- Stay on paths when walking through wooded areas or hiking.



- Wear long sleeve shirts and pants.



- Inspect your body, arms and legs for ticks when you return indoors.



- Manage pet activity and keep pets away from wooded areas.



- Take steps to manage wildlife activity on your property by removing potential food sources and harbourage areas.

For more information about protecting your property from ticks, call your local Orkin Canada branch today.



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