

Tick Information

CincyNature Camp at Rowe Woods usually reports less than a dozen ticks found in a season covering two months of 30 campers out hiking everyday.

- Inspect for ticks periodically (especially as soon as you leave their habitat) to remove them before they attach and begin feeding. Ticks can be found crawling on clothing and bare skin before attachment. Be sure to also inspect children and companion animals.
- Pay special attention to the head and back of the neck of humans to detect attached ticks.
- **PROMPTLY REMOVE** any ticks. Prompt removal of an attached tick reduces the chance of infection by Rocky Mountain spotted fever or Lyme disease. Tick attachment of several hours or more often is required for disease transmission.
- Take care not to crush or puncture the tick during removal. Rocky Mountain spotted fever may be acquired from infected tick body fluids that contact broken skin, the mouth, or eyes. Do NOT use a hot match or cigarette to remove a tick as this may cause the tick to burst.
- Do NOT apply solvents or other materials to the tick to “stimulate” the tick to detach. Such treatments can result in increased tick salivation and disease transmission.
- Avoid touching a tick with bare hands. Shield your fingers with a paper towel, wear rubber gloves, or use tweezers.
- Grasp an embedded tick as close to your skin as possible (the area where the tick’s mouthparts enter the skin) and use steady pressure to pull it straight out. Do not twist or jerk the tick, as its mouthparts may be left in the skin.
- After tick removal, thoroughly disinfect the bite site and wash your hands with soap and water. The feeding lesion should be swabbed with a topical antiseptic to prevent secondary bacterial infection.