

# School-to-Nature



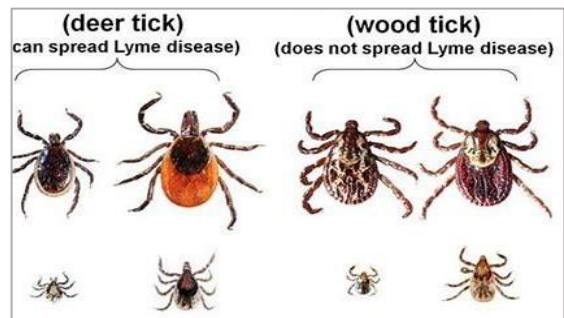
WOOD OR DOG TICK



AFTER FEEDING ON BLOOD 7 DAYS

## Wood Tick

The Wood Tick (also called the American Dog Tick) can be active on Conservancy lands at any time the temperature is above freezing; but these ticks are most active from April through June. An adult tick is just a little larger than a sesame seed, about 3/16 of an inch. Wood Ticks have wide, oval, flat bodies, and are a bright reddish-brown color with gray markings, and they have 8 legs. These ticks do NOT carry Lyme disease, but they have been known, rarely, to carry Rocky Mountain Spotted Fever and Tularemia. The photo shows the Deer Tick or Black-Legged tick that carries Lyme Disease.



Wood Ticks are carnivores, feeding on the blood of large birds, animals, and humans. Ticks climb to the end of a branch or a grass blade, often in a shady area, and attach to anything that brushes against them- usually an animal's or human's leg. From there the tick moves to an area where they can access the skin to feed. They do NOT burrow into the skin. Ticks lay their eggs mostly in wood brush but occasionally in homes on clothing or carpeting. They may lay thousands of eggs in a lifetime as long as they can feed.

A tick bite looks like a spider bite, about the size of a dime. If you need to remove a tick, there are several ways. If you use a tweezers, place it right on the mouth-parts and gently pull. Symptoms of illness following a Wood Tick bite are rare, but would include fever, aches, nausea, and rash. For tick prevention, check yourself and your pet when you come indoors after being in the woods, fields, or even your own back yard. If you plan to walk in grassy areas like CC lands, wear long pants and wear your socks outside your pants.



February 2022 BH / DL

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