

















Ticks

- Date back to Jurassic era
- Found in natural, suburban and urban habitats
- Survive frigid climates
- Don't fall from trees
 - Usually in knee-high vegetation out of direct sunlight
 - Edge of wooded areas
 - Even at the beach
- More than 90% of nationally notifiable vectorborne diseases are linked to ticks*

*New England Journal of Medicine Bracing for the Worst — Range Expansion of the Lone Star Tick in the Northeastern U.S. DNewec 5, 2019







































Tick-borne Diseases Are Challenging

- Have similar symptoms
 - Non-specific, flu-like
 - For details, see notes pages and/or CDC website
- Tests are generally not accurate until 45 days after symptom onset
- Experts advise healthcare professionals to diagnose and treat on the *presumption* of a tick-borne illness
- Some TBDs are viral and have no treatment

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Tick-borne Diseases In New Jersey			
Disease	2021	2022	2023 [†]
Lyme	3,523	5,896	7,208
Babesiosis	258	294	375
Alpha Gal Syndrome	119	269	278
Anaplasmosis	202	125	184
Ehrlichiosis	77	115	105
Spotted Fever	40	35	7
Hard Tick Relapsing Fever	17	6	18
Tularemia	4	1	2
Powassan	0	2	0
Provisional data Data not available * Not a reportable disease	Source: NJ Department of Health and Centers for Disease Control and Prevention		













































































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- VBDs are becoming more prevalent
- Many VBDs are viral, so the only option is to avoid bites
- Emerging and known diseases and their vectors are expanding territories
- Personal protection for those at home/traveling is crucial



Repellents

- Always use a repellent with an EPA-registered active ingredient
 - Tested for safety and efficacy
 - Tested for specific vectors







Guidance on Repellents for Kids CDC/Am. Academy of Pediatrics Use DEET, picaridin, IR3535 on children as young as 2 MONTHS of age in concentrations up to 30% (Since 2003) EPA has NO age limitations on any of the registered actives *EXCEPT* Oil of Lemon Eucalyptus Children must be 3 *years* of age or older Adults apply sparingly to their own hands, smoothing repellent evenly on child's exposed skin just as you would a sunscreen Avoid fingers in very young children Keep repellent out of eyes and mouths



