KNOW YOUR TICKS

The number of ticks and tick-borne illnesses in the United States is increasing. No longer is the blacklegged tick, *lxodes scapularis* (or *lxodes pacificus* on the west coast), which transmits Lyme disease, the only tick that should be of concern. And no longer do tick-borne illnesses affect only people living in certain areas of the country. The problem is spreading.

These days, ticks are more than just an annoyance. One bite can make you sick, even change your life. Taking protective measures is important in order to prevent a tick bite.

Reducing tick abundance in your yard, wearing protective clothing, and scanning your body for ticks are all great actions for preventing tick bites. Fortunately, the best way to prevent bites remains the same: Know your ticks and how to avoid them. Here are the most common ticks in the United States:

	AMERICAN Dog Tick	EASTERN Blacklegged Tick	BROWN Dog Tick	GULF Coast Tick	LONE Star Tick	ROCKY Mountain Wood Tick	WESTERN Blacklegged Tick	SOFT Ticks
	Dermacentor variabilis	lxodes scapularis	Rhipicephalus sanguineus	Amblyomma maculatum	Amblyomma americanum	Dermacentor andersoni	lxodes pacificus	Ornithodoro
	X	X	T		×	T		۲
			heavy presence	medium presence	e 🗾 not present			
Lyme disease		✓					✓	
Babesiosis		✓	 ✓ 	✓			✓	
Tick-Borne Relapsing Fever (TBRF)		✓			✓		✓	1
Rickettsiosis	✓	✓	✓			✓	✓	
Ehrlichiosis		✓	✓		✓		~	
Anaplasmosis		✓					✓	
Tularemia	√				✓	✓		
Powassan		✓					✓	
STARI					v			
Heartland Virus					✓			
Colorado Tick Fever						✓		

