

CANINE VECTOR-BORNE DISEASE

Is your dog at risk of infection from ticks and mosquitoes?

Your dog could be at risk of developing several potentially life-threatening diseases.

Diseases carried by ticks and mosquitoes

- Lyme disease is transmitted by the deer tick and can be found in every U.S. state and Canadian province.
- Anaplasmosis is also transmitted by the deer tick and is a common coinfection with Lyme disease.
- Ehrlichiosis is transmitted by the brown dog tick and is the second most common canine infectious disease in the U.S.
- Heartworm is transmitted by mosquitoes and is perhaps the canine infection most widely understood by pet owners.

Quick tips for pet owners

- Check your dog for ticks daily. If you find a tick, remove it right away* (ticks will gravitate to the head, ears and neck) or call us for assistance.
- Use a tick preventative on your dog. Watch your dog closely for changes in behavior or appetite and call us with any concerns.
- If your pet's test results are negative, congratulations! Keep up the good work with preventatives, regular screenings and daily tick checks.

Make sure your dog is protected.

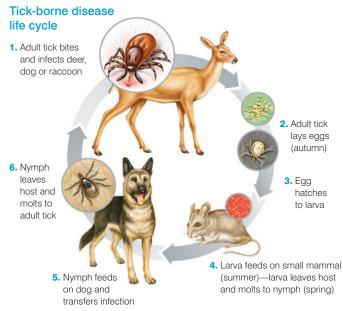
Call us to schedule an appointment and to learn ways to help safeguard the health of your pet.

*Go to dogsandticks.com for a description of proper removal procedures.

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Life cycle of vector-borne infection

Your dog may not show any signs of tick- and mosquitoborne diseases for 21 days or more, making regular testing critical. The charts below illustrate the life cycles of these diseases:



Deer ticks can become infected during the larval and nymph phase by feeding on small mammals that harbor bacteria that cause Lyme disease or anaplasmosis.

Mosquito-borne disease life cycle

1. Infected mosquito transmits heartworm larvae into healthy dog

2. Larvae mature and migrate through dog's tissues

> Adult worms invade the heart and pulmonary arteries

 Microfilariae develop into infective larvae within the mosquito in 2–3 weeks

5. Mosquito bites infected dog and ingests microfilariae

 Adults may reproduce, and females release offspring (microfilariae) into bloodstream