Prevention

reatment

# **Ticks and Lyme Disease**

Ticks that carry Lyme disease live in woodlands, tall grasses and bushes. Protect yourself:

## **Dress to protect**

Wear light-coloured clothing, to make ticks easier to spot.

Tuck your clothes in to avoid exposed skin and points of entry.

Spray clothing and exposed skin with a tick repellent that has DEET or Icaridin.

Wear closed footwear and socks.

# After being outdoors...

Search your clothes and body for ticks at least once a day.

Shower after being outdoors to easily find and wash away ticks.

Shower after being outdoors to easily find and wash away ticks.

### **Areas to Check for Ticks**

Pay close attention to the groin, navel, armpits, scalp and behind ears and knees.

# Tick Removal

 Use fine-tipped tweezers to grasp the tick as close to your skin as possible. Do not use your fingers.



- After removing the tick, place it in screw-top bottle and take it to your doctor or local health unit for tick identification and
- Pull the tick straight out, gently but firmly. Squeezing the tick can cause Lyme bacteria to be accidentally introduced into the body.
- Cleanse bite using soap or rubbing alcohol.



#### testing.

 See a health care professional as early as possible if you have symptoms or you feel unwell in the weeks following a bite.

## Most Commonly Found Ticks in Canada



### Symptoms of Lyme disease

- Fever
- Headache
- Muscle and joint pains
- Spasms
- Numbness or tingling
- Facial paralysis
- Fatigue
- Swollen glands
- Expanding skin rash

A Message from the Unifor National Joint Health and Safety Committee

Source: ontario.ca/lyme

