



Belle Terre Times

OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF THE INCORPORATED VILLAGE

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www.belleterre.us

June 2019

THE TICK EDITION

The Board of Trustees and I consider the health and safety of our residents our highest priorities.

Of great concern has been the dramatic increase in auto-deer accidents and the increase in tick-borne diseases resultant from our heavy deer, and rodent populations.

While other municipalities are still in the “talking stages” regarding these problems, Belle Terre is attempting to address them with as much influence as a small village can have on these complicated issues.

As you know our repeal of our “no hunting” code has allowed some of our residents to invite hunters onto their properties and to reduce the size of our deer herd by about one third, from an estimated 300 to an estimated 200 individuals. Several homeowners have obtained “nuisance permits” from the DEC and will continue to remove additional deer throughout the non-hunting season. (For additional information see our January Newsletter at our website www.belleterre.us)

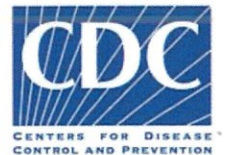
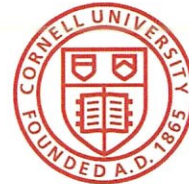
Several municipalities including Port Jefferson Village and Brookhaven Town are about to modify their codes and/or open public lands to hunting.



Trustee Richard Musto and I have attended several forums in the last two months that have included our elected officials from Albany as well as wild life professionals. We have begun to identify changes needed in State laws regarding deer populations and are trying to develop ways to reduce the cost of joint health related efforts and explore grant opportunities.



I am also one of a few mayors working with the Suffolk County Public Health Partnership, the Department of Entomology at Cornell University and the Centers for Disease Control (CDC) Tick Borne Diseases Center looking for ways to control tick populations in public spaces and residential settings

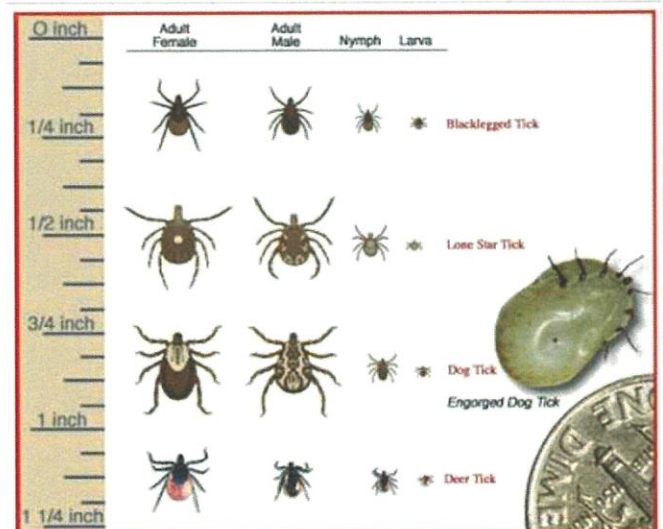


A soon to be released three-year detailed study of tick populations on Long Island shows us to be in the most dangerous geographical area for tick-borne diseases.

More than you ever wanted to know about ticks:



There are three distinct varieties of ticks found in our area; the Deer Tick, the Black Legged Tick and the Lone Star Tick.



Tick Borne Diseases:

Besides the commonly recognized Lyme disease, Deer Ticks and Black Legged Ticks also spread Anaplasmosis, Babesiosis, and Powassan Virus. Lone Star Ticks spread Ehrlichiosis.

Lyme Disease is an illness caused by a bacterium. The bacterium may stay localized to the skin or it might rapidly spread throughout the body after the initial tick bite. The "disease" is caused by the inflammatory response to the bacterium. First, it is lodged in the skin

where it may cause a characteristic red round or oval rash. Next it may travel through the blood stream, landing at different organs. If it lands in a joint, it can cause arthritis. If it lands in the heart, it can cause disturbances in cardiac conduction — arrhythmias or even complete heart block; cardiac Lyme disease can lead to death if not detected

and treated early. If it lands in the peripheral or central nervous system, it can cause meningitis, confusion, memory loss, burning or stabbing pains, shooting pains, numbness/tingling, and/or weakness. Antibiotic treatments may be successful in fighting the disease especially with early detection.

Anaplasmosis is a bacterial infection that has initial symptoms appearing five to ten days after a tick bite. They include fever, chills, severe headache, nausea, cough, and joint pain. Rash is uncommon.

Babesiosis symptoms include intermittent fevers accompanied by fatigue and malaise, headache, and chills. Nausea, vomiting, reduced appetite, and depression can also occur. Some patients will develop enlarged livers or spleens. The usual disease course lasts weeks to several months, but some patients take even longer to fully recover.

Powassan Virus transmission, unlike with many other tick-borne microbes, can occur very quickly, as soon as 15 minutes after tick attachment. Symptoms may include fever, vomiting, muscle weakness, headaches, confusion, and a lack of coordination, speech problems, memory problems, and seizures. When the infection spreads to the central nervous system, meningitis or encephalitis with seizures may occur.



Ehrlichiosis patients develop symptoms one to two weeks after the tick bite, and over 70% will have fever, chills, severe headache, and muscle pain. Less common symptoms include nausea and vomiting, as well as confusion. The potential severity of ehrlichial infections makes early diagnosis critical.

What's next?

The Village is looking into several possible strategies to control the tick population, beyond reducing the number of deer in our community.

The "4-Poster":

The first is the use of what is referred to as a "4-Poster." The '4-Poster' device targets the ticks that feed on deer without harming the animal, and has the potential for delivering a broad scale impact on tick-borne disease. The '4-poster' has a central bin filled with corn (to attract deer) that trickles into specially designed feeding troughs surrounded by a pair of foam posts at either end of the device.



An Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) approved insecticide, Permethrin, is applied weekly to the foam posts by a licensed pesticide applicator.



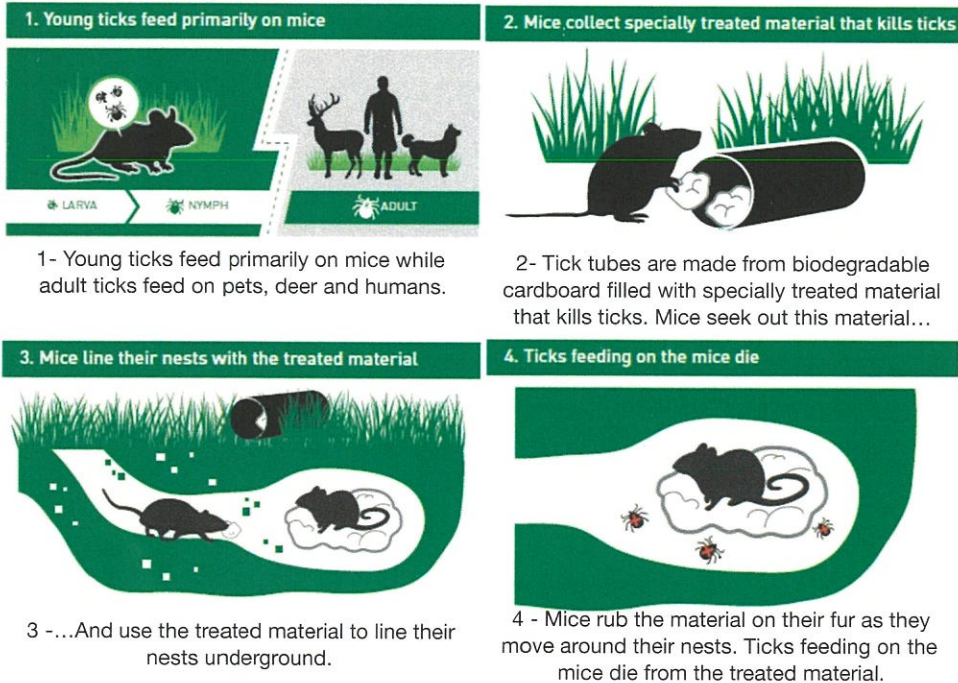
Deer rub their head against these posts while attempting to get the corn, applying the Permethrin directly to the deer's head and neck, which is where most ticks feed. Most of the ticks are killed before having a chance to reproduce.



Tick Tubes:

The second is the use of “tick tubes.” Tick tubes are short open-ended cardboard tubes filled with cotton nesting material. This nesting material is treated with Permethrin. Mice find the tubes and collect the cotton to make their nests. The Permethrin binds to oils on the fur of the mice. Ticks that attempt to attach are killed, transforming the mice from tick hosts to tick killers. The mice are unharmed.

HOW TICK TUBES WORK:



How to protect yourself:

Permethrin:

Permethrin is an insecticide in the pyrethroid family. Pyrethroids are synthetic chemicals that act like natural extracts from the chrysanthemum flower.

Permethrin affects insects if they eat it or touch it. Permethrin affects the nervous system in insects, causing muscle spasms, paralysis and death. When a tick, mosquito, or other insect comes into contact with Permethrin, it absorbs a dose that will either repel or kill the insect. Unlike topical insect repellents applied to the skin, Permethrin is applied to clothing, bonding to the fabric fibers for up to 6 weeks (42 days) or 6 washings. There are several companies that sell Permethrin for clothing. (i.e. Sawyer's on Amazon) The clothing is spray soaked and left to dry. Once dry it is odorless and has no effect on your skin.



Deet:

Deet has been available to the public as a repellent for ticks since 1957. It can be applied to the skin and clothes (although it should not be applied under clothes) and comes in lotions, wipes and aerosol sprays. Products containing 25% to 30% Deet are most effective. In a recent study only 3 out of 100 ticks successfully walked across a surface treated with a Deet solution.

Deet can damage certain synthetic fabrics such as rayon and spandex.

Heavy sweating negatively affects how long its protection lasts.

Popular brands of products containing Deet are Off, Repel, Ben's, Coleman and Sawyer.



Incorporated Village of Belle Terre

**1 Cliff Road
Belle Terre, NY 11777**

VILLAGE DIRECTORY

PLEASE RETAIN THIS DIRECTORY NEAR YOUR TELEPHONE

Mayor	Bob Sandak	631 474-8686	CONSTABLE'S OFFICE	Dave Wolosin, Chief	631 928-5785
Deputy Mayor	Sheila Knapp	631 473-0212			
Trustee	Jacquelyn Gernaey	631 928-0020	Beach Commissioner	Sheila Knapp	631 473-0212
Trustee	Richard Musto, MD	631 928-0020	Building Commissioner	Dennis Statuch	631 928-0020
Trustee	Judy Zaino	631 928-0020	Parks Commissioner	Judy Zaino	631 928-0020
Clerk-Treasurer	Joanne Raso	631 928-0020	Road Commissioner	Bill Raso	631 928-0020
Deputy Clerk-Treasurer	Louise Smit	631 928-0020	Youth Program Commissioner	Francoise Schachner	631 928-0020
Village Attorney	Eileen A. Powers	631 727-8250	Historian	John Hiz	631 928-0020
Village Justice	Eric Cherches	631 473-5105	Building Inspector	Christopher Harding	631 928-0020
Court Clerk	Louise Smit	631 473-5105	Assessor	Frank Aragona	631 928-0020
Planning Board	Tony Gitto	631 928-0020			
Zoning Board of Appeals	Dave McAnaney	631 928-0020			

BOARD OF TRUSTEE MEETINGS: Work Session, 1st Tuesday of each month

Regular Public Meeting, 3rd Tuesday of each month

VILLAGE CLERK: 631 928-0020 • FAX 631 928-7971

BELLE TERRE VILLAGE TAXES & FEES PAYABLE AT: www.belleterre.us

VILLAGE WEBSITE: www.belleterre.us

VILLAGE E-MAIL: btvillageoffice@gmail.com

JUSTICE COURT CLERK: Call 631 473-5105 - leave message

BELLE TERRE COURT FINES PAYABLE AT: www.belleterre.us

NOTARY PUBLIC: Call Office - 631 928-0020

REFUSE: PICK-UP: Tuesdays & Fridays

RECYCLABLES PICK-UP: Alternating Wednesdays **(NO GLASS)**

 PLASTIC (ONLY ) & METAL CANS 

 PAPER: Newspapers, **Clean** Cardboard 

2019 Calendar Schedule for Recycle Days is available at: <https://belleterre.us/files/MAGGIO-Final-Recycling-Calendar-2019.pdf>