

Volume 20

## Tick Outbreak - Proper Yard Maintenance

## High grass and unmaintained mounds are a breeding ground for Ticks.

Protecting yourself and others who work or relax in your yard is important. Protecting them from ticks when hiking or camping is one thing, but thinking of ticks when relaxing or working in your backyard is another.

Managing your yard and lanscape to make the environment unsuitable for ticks can ctrol populations and discourche ticks in your area.



## How to create a Tick-Free Zone in your Yard:



- Keep bushes, shrubs, and tall grasses away from patios, play areas, and any other frequently used areas in your yard since this is where ticks wait for hosts.
- Regularly clean up any lawn debris, such as piles of brush and leaves, since they can provide shelter for potential tick host animals. The host animal passes the disease to the ticks, so keeping wildlife out of your yard will cut back on infected ticks.
- Keep grass mowed and trimmed short—especially around the septic system or on the mound.
- Pay special attention to the edges of your property, especially if you live near wooded or highly vegetated areas. Trim plants to prevent them from hanging over into your property.
- Alternatively, you can create a barrier with woodchips, gravel, or other materials on the edges of your property.

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Remember, Prevention is the best form of defense!