

## Information on tick-borne illness and prevention

Spring means it's time to perform "tick checks" every day on you, your children and your pets. The following information is available on the Rockland County Dept. of Health website at <http://www.co.rockland.ny.us/health/CD/td.htm>.

The website provides you with information on:

- how to prevent tick-borne illnesses
- what to look for, how to protect your family and pets
- how to safely remove an attached tick.

Lyme disease occurs when someone is bitten by an infected deer tick. The risk of contracting Lyme disease or any tick-borne illness is greatly reduced if you discover and remove the tick before attachment or within the first 24 hours. At this time of year, the ticks are very small- about the size of a poppy seed. If you have any concerns about Lyme Disease or ticks, please go to the Rockland County Dept. of Health website or contact your physician.

Please note, if your child has an attached tick, we **DO NOT** remove them at school. We will contact you to pick them up for removal. Please do not send your child to school with a tick to be removed or identified. For identification purposes, you can contact the Cornell Cooperative Extension.

