



[https://www.cdc.gov/ticks/avoid/in\\_the\\_yard.html](https://www.cdc.gov/ticks/avoid/in_the_yard.html)

## Preventing ticks in the yard

[Español \(Spanish\)](#)

### Apply Pesticides Outdoors to Control Ticks

Use of pesticides can reduce the number of ticks in treated areas of your yard. However, you should not rely on spraying to reduce your risk of infection.

When using pesticides, always follow label instructions. Before spraying, check with local health or agricultural officials about:

- The best time to apply pesticide in your area
- The best type of pesticide to use
- Rules and regulations regarding pesticide application on residential properties

### Create a Tick-safe Zone to Reduce Blacklegged Ticks in the Yard

The Connecticut Agricultural Experiment Station has developed a comprehensive [Tick Management Handbook pdf icon\[PDF – 84 pages\]external icon](#) for preventing tick bites. Here are some simple landscaping techniques that can help reduce blacklegged tick populations:

- Remove leaf litter.
- Clear tall grasses and brush around homes and at the edge of lawns.
- Place a 3-ft wide barrier of wood chips or gravel between lawns and wooded areas to restrict tick migration into recreational areas.
- Mow the lawn frequently.
- Stack wood neatly and in a dry area (discourages rodents).
- Keep playground equipment, decks, and patios away from yard edges and trees.
- Discourage unwelcome animals (such as deer, raccoons, and stray dogs) from entering your yard by constructing fences.
- Remove old furniture, mattresses, or trash from the yard that may give ticks a place to hide.

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Content source: [Centers for Disease Control and Prevention](#), [National Center for Emerging and Zoonotic Infectious Diseases \(NCEZID\)](#), [Division of Vector-Borne Diseases \(DVBD\)](#)