

NAPA-SOLANO-YOLO-MARIN PUBLIC HEALTH LABORATORY

TICK REMOVAL AND COLLECTION PROCEDURE

1. If possible, have someone else remove the tick from you.
2. Use tweezers or forceps rather than your fingers.
3. If you must touch the tick, use a tissue or gloves to protect your fingers and hands.
4. Grasp the tick's mouthparts as close to the skin as possible.
5. Gently pull the tick straight out, steadily and firmly. Do not twist or jerk the tick.
6. If the mouthparts of the tick break off and remain in your skin, consult your physician.
7. Place the tick into a clean capped container or a plastic bag with a tight seal. Moisten a piece of cotton or tissue with tap water and place inside container or bag with the tick. **NOTE: DO NOT USE ALCOHOL, FORMALIN OR OTHER LIQUIDS. DO NOT STICK TICK TO SCOTCH TAPE. THESE MATERIALS MAKE TESTING FOR THE LYME ORGANISM UNSATISFACTORY.**
8. Bring or ship tick to the laboratory as soon as possible. ***PLEASE NOTE: THIS TEST IS FEE FOR SERVICE, A PAYMENT MUST ACCOMPANY TICK WHEN SUBMITTED. PLEASE CALL THE LABORATORY AT (707) 784-4410 FOR CURRENT PRICING.***
9. Complete a laboratory "TICK IDENTIFICATION-LYME DISEASE TESTING FORM" or supply the following information.
 - Name, address, birth date of person bitten
 - Location of the bite (arm, neck, etc.)
 - Date tick removed
 - Estimated duration of time tick was attached (i.e. 4 hrs, 8 hrs, etc.)
 - Geographical location (what city, park, etc.) tick was obtained
 - Phone number, name and address of person to receive report
 - Any obvious symptoms

SUBMIT TICK AND PAYMENT TO:

- NAPA-SOLANO-YOLO-MARIN COUNTY PH LABORATORY
2201 COURAGE DRIVE, MS 9-200
FAIRFIELD, CA 94533

REFERENCE: Lyme Disease Fact Sheet, California Department of Public Health Division of Communicable Disease Control