



Tickborne Disease Prevention Toolkit for Outdoor Workers

Background: Outdoor workers in New Jersey—especially those who work in wooded, brushy, or grassy areas—may be at increased risk for tick exposure and tickborne illness. The NJDOH Tickborne Disease Prevention Toolkit for Outdoor Workers, at <https://www.nj.gov/health/cd/topics/outdoorworkers.shtml> provides ready-to-use training and education materials for employers and employees.

Employers are encouraged to educate outdoor workers at least annually as part of routine employee training. This toolkit provides information, training materials, and quick-reference guides to help employers:

- Educate workers how to prevent tick bites.
- Recognize early symptoms of tickborne illness.
- Know when and how to seek prompt medical care.

Toolkit Resources:

1. **Tickborne Disease Basics for Outdoor Workers (PowerPoint slides)** includes editable captions that can be tailored by work setting. It covers the signs and symptoms of tickborne diseases and tick bite prevention. It is suitable for in-person or virtual training.
2. **Tickborne Disease Basics for Outdoor Workers (recording)** is a pre-recorded version of the slide presentation. This can be assigned to staff as an alternative to the employer-given presentation.
3. **In the Tick of It: Protecting Outdoor Workers from Ticks (flyer)** summarizes key findings from NJDOH surveys conducted with outdoor workers and provides steps employers can take to reduce worker risk.
4. **In the Tick of It: What Every Outdoor Worker Needs to Know (poster)** is designed for use in break rooms or other employee areas and highlights tick bite prevention, symptoms of tickborne illness, and what to do after finding an attached tick.
5. **Safety of Permethrin Use for Outdoor Workers (flyer)** provides safety information for using permethrin and steps for proper application on clothing/gear.
6. **Tick ID: Common Ticks in New Jersey (wallet card)** shows common New Jersey ticks and how to properly remove them.
7. **Toolkit Feedback (Online Form)** allows employers or employees to report how the toolkit is being used and to make suggestions for improvement. [Click here to provide feedback.](#)

Questions or suggestions on the toolkit, contact Michelle Bove at michelle.bove@doh.nj.gov.

Questions related to occupational health, contact Daniel Lefkowitz at daniel.lefkowitz@doh.nj.gov.