



# LYME DISEASE

## Ideas for Taking Action

Wisconsin Environmental Public Health  
Tracking Program



### TAKING ACTION

We know it's a challenge to translate data into action. To help get you started, we created a short menu of potential strategies for addressing Lyme disease. To help communities of all sizes and resource levels, we organized this guide by the scope of the strategy, from addressing knowledge, attitudes, and skills to addressing laws and policies.

#### INDIVIDUAL LEVEL | Knowledge, Attitudes, Skills

- Promote tick prevention activities such as using repellent, treating clothing with permethrin, doing tick self-checks, and removing ticks promptly, especially among hikers and outdoor recreation seekers.
- Make yards less hospitable to ticks through landscaping techniques.

#### INTERPERSONAL LEVEL | Family, Friends, Social Networks

- Educate doctors about how to talk to patients about tick prevention.
- Educate doctors on current guidelines for diagnosis and treatment.
- Encourage veterinarians to talk to their clients about flea and tick prevention on their pets.
- Post about tick prevention activities on social media outlets.

#### ORGANIZATIONAL LEVEL | Organizations, Schools, Workplaces

- Work with camp associations to incorporate Lyme disease into orientation.
- Encourage supervisors of grassy and wooded worksites to educate their staff on tick prevention and offer repellent.

#### COMMUNITY LEVEL | Design, Access, Connectedness, Spaces

- Encourage outdoor recreation areas to offer or sell repellent on site.
- Encourage outdoor recreation areas to post signage about tick prevention.
- Clear overgrown grass and brush along trails.

#### POLICY LEVEL | National or Local Laws and Policies

- Encourage organizations involved with outdoor activities to have policies to increase customer and employee awareness of Lyme disease and methods for prevention.
- Encourage campgrounds and outdoor recreation areas to post information on ticks and prevention of infection and sell repellent on site.

Find more strategies and explore Lyme disease data at [dhs.wisconsin.gov/epht](https://dhs.wisconsin.gov/epht).

WISCONSIN ENVIRONMENTAL PUBLIC HEALTH TRACKING PROGRAM  
Bureau of Environmental and Occupational Health

[dhs.wisconsin.gov/epht](https://dhs.wisconsin.gov/epht) | MAY 2017 | [dhstracking@wi.gov](mailto:dhstracking@wi.gov)

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Each strategy contains links to more resources. View this document on the Resources section of our website to access the links.

