TO: All Employees

FROM: Dean Argenta - Field Safety Coordinator

ENVIRONMENTAL GROUP

DATE: June 13,2016

REFERENCE: Ticks and Lyme Disease



Concerns for outdoor workers

Ticks present concern for outdoor workers. They can cause Lyme disease when they attach themselves to a host and feed for six to 13 days.

Ticks may be found in <u>tall grass areas</u>, <u>shrubs</u>, <u>brushy areas</u>, <u>river bottoms and woodlands</u>. They are most active in the spring, summer and fall, but can be active for the entire year in warmer parts of the United States.

CLothing Tips

- Tying or taping pant legs tight around the ankle to prevent ticks from crawling inside.
- ☐ Tuck in shirts to make ticks easier to spot and remove.

	Wear light-colored	clothing	to	make	ticks	easier	to	spot.
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Clothing should be washed regularly to kill any remaining ticks.

Repellent Use

Ļ	Repellents	containing	permethrin	work	well a	at p	protecting	against	ticks.
Avoid applying it directly to the skin.									

- Repellents containing DEET will protect the exposed skin of a worker.
- Workers should read and follow all instructions on the packaging before applying any repellent.

Removing a Tick

- Workers may not notice a moving tick on their body or even feel a bite, so clothing must be **checked** regularly.
- According to CDC, tweezers should be used to remove attached ticks with a slow and steady pull away from the body.
 - Twisting and jerking can cause the mouthparts of the tick to remain on the skin. If this occurs, use the tweezers to remove any remains.
 - → If a tick is removed from the skin, keeping the tick for a few weeks in a vial labeled with the date and location of the bite may be helpful to medical professionals.
- ♦ A worker who develops a rash or fever within several weeks of removing a tick needs to visit a doctor.

Please contact me at 570-903-2893 or Dargenta@scenv.com with any questions or comments.