



6-1-2023

Good Morning and Welcome to June!

I am attaching a slightly different update than you have been receiving. While this update does include the monthly COVID total positive cases for the previous month, the focus is on other topics related to the season. This month the focus is tickborne illnesses. There are several tickborne illnesses that may be prevented with proper precautions. Future updates will include other topics related to the current season and/or potential outbreaks of which the community should be aware

Other Epi-related topics to remain aware of although not currently in our region include:

Fungal Meningitis Alert from Mexico Exposure-Healthcare providers should be aware that patients who underwent medical or surgical procedures under epidural anesthesia in Matamoros, Mexico, and who have developed signs or symptoms of possible meningitis (e.g., fever, headache, stiff neck, nausea, vomiting, photophobia, altered mental status) should be assessed for fungal meningitis as detailed in the CDC health alert. Because some patients with fungal meningitis may initially present with mild or non-specific symptoms, healthcare providers should have a low threshold for performing brain imaging and lumbar puncture.

Mpox update - Chicago outbreak-In the United States, cases of mpox (formerly monkeypox) have declined since peaking in August 2022, but the outbreak is not over. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) continues to receive reports of cases that reflect ongoing community transmission in the United States and internationally. CDC and local partners are investigating a cluster of mpox cases in the Chicago area.

Thank you to Blake Johnson, Region One Epidemiologist for the attached PDF!

Thank you Joanna Colson for information on the other epi-related topics!

Billy Pitts, MHA, MHR
Public Health Director
Marshall County Health Department
Office 270-252-2700
Mobile 270-970-1957

Marshall County Health Department

May 2023 Update

May is tickborne disease awareness month. Find out how to prevent and protect yourself for a healthy summer!



[Click here to learn more about tick identification and illnesses carried by different species.](#)



Lone Star Tick



Blacklegged Tick



American Dog Tick

Illnesses caused by ticks:

- Anaplasmosis
- Babesiosis
- Ehrlichiosis
- Lyme Disease
- Rocky Mountain Spotted Fever

[Click here to learn about signs and symptoms associated with tickborne illness.](#)

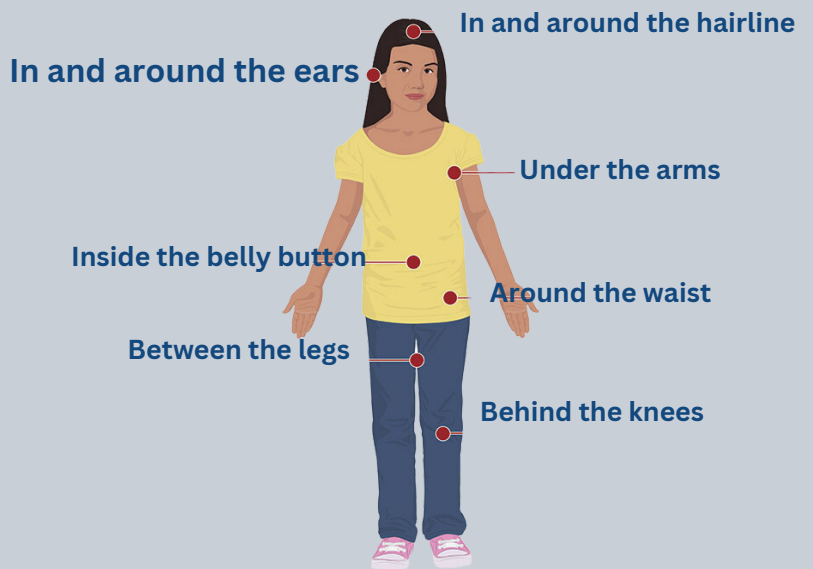
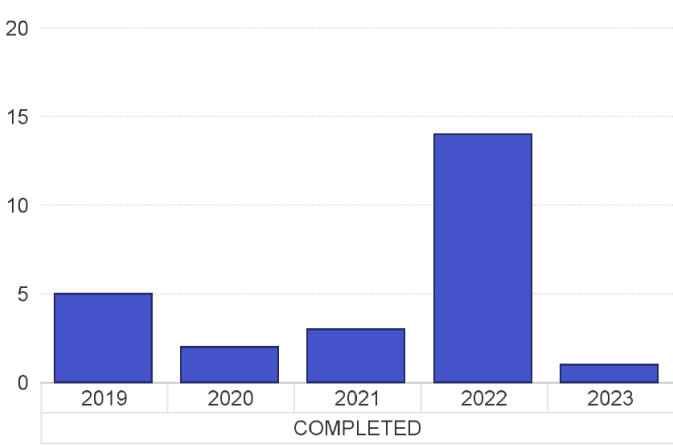


Did you know??

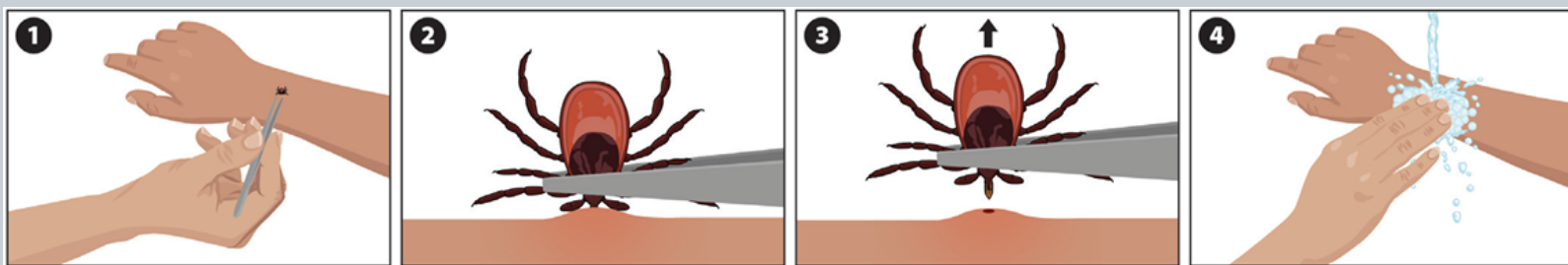
From 2017-2019, there were over 50,000 Emergency Department visits a year in the U.S. for tick bites!

Know where to look

Tickborne Investigations in Marshall County, 2019-2023



Follow the steps below to safely remove a tick from yourself or a pet



Avoid folklore remedies such as “painting” the tick with nail polish or petroleum jelly, or using heat to make the tick detach from the skin. Your goal is to remove the tick as quickly as possible—not waiting for it to detach.

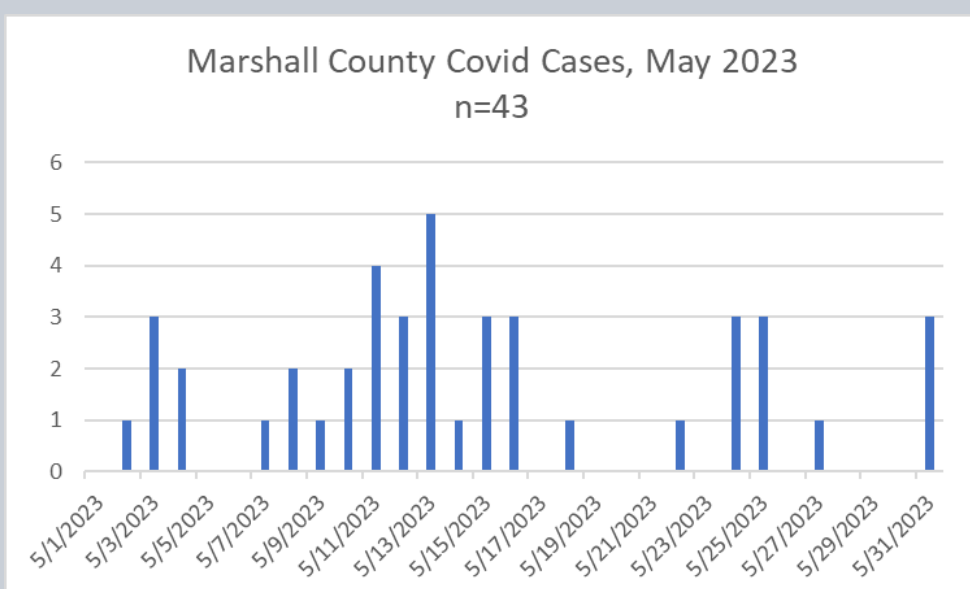
When to call your healthcare provider

If you develop the following symptoms within 30 days of a tick bite:

- Fever
- Fatigue
- Rash
- Muscle pain
- Headache
- Joint Pain

For more information and tickborne illness visit: <https://www.cdc.gov/ticks/index.html>

Covid News



For any questions regarding Covid-19 or other reportable conditions, please call the Marshall County Health Department at 270-527-1496.