

Lyme Disease And This Coming Summer



Lyme Disease is expected to increase this summer due to the increase in rainfall which we have had this season.

It is caused by a bacterium called "BORRELIA", which is transmitted chiefly by certain ticks in the United States and in Europe. Originally called "Lyme Arthritis", it was first discovered at Old Lyme, Connecticut.

It is associated with rural areas and wild animals such as deer and mice. The incidence is highest on the Eastern Region of the US, but it is noticeable in Northern California. When you are in grassy or wooded areas, routinely check your and your family's legs and exposed skin to identify a tick and eradicate it. They are passive and will not bite you. Most people who are bitten by a tick with the Borrelia bacterium do not get infected; but the site of the bite does need to be monitored for up to 30 days; and if becoming increasingly inflamed, seek medical attention. The infection can usually be treated easily, but if it spreads, then it can cause serious medical problems.



For further information see the **Center for Disease Control web-site.**

<http://www.cdc.gov/lyme/index.html>