

# PREVENTION

THE COMPANION ANIMAL PARASITE COUNCIL™ (CAPC) GUIDELINES FOR THE TREATMENT OF PARASITES IN DOGS AND CATS RECOMMENDS A COMPREHENSIVE PLAN BASED ON REGIONAL RISK ASSESSMENT TO REDUCE THE RISK OF LYME DISEASE. SPEAK TO YOUR VETERINARIAN ABOUT WHAT STEPS YOU CAN TAKE TO MINIMIZE YOUR PET'S RISK.



If Lyme disease is a concern in your pet's geographic region, your veterinarian may recommend an annual vaccination against Lyme disease in addition to a tick control product. Vaccination with a broad spectrum Lyme vaccine is a safe and effective option that aids in the prevention of Lyme disease and subclinical arthritis.



EVERYONE IS TALKING ABOUT LYME DISEASE. SHOULD YOU BE WORRIED?

<sup>1</sup> <http://www.capcvet.org/parasite-prevalence-maps>. Accessed on Sep 5, 2015.



# LYME DISEASE IS A GROWING CONCERN

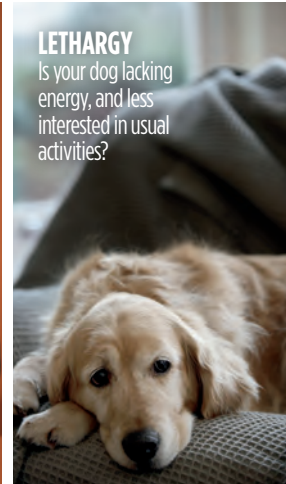
YOU AND YOUR DOG COULD BE AT RISK OF CONTRACTING THIS SERIOUS DISEASE IF BITTEN BY *IXODES* INFECTED TICKS.

In the past, Lyme disease was more prevalent in the Northeast and upper Midwest than in other regions of the United States. Today, however, as the black-legged (deer) tick population that carries Lyme disease has spread, the geographic range of the disease has expanded farther into the Midwest and to California.

The risk of contracting Lyme disease currently is greatest on the east coast from Maine to North Carolina and in the Midwest from Indiana to North Dakota. The black-legged tick continues to spread, so that the prevalence of Lyme disease is rising in other regions of the US, including parts of the southern and western states.<sup>1</sup>

Lyme disease can also be a risk in other parts of the United States, as migratory birds can carry ticks to regions where they have not been seen before.

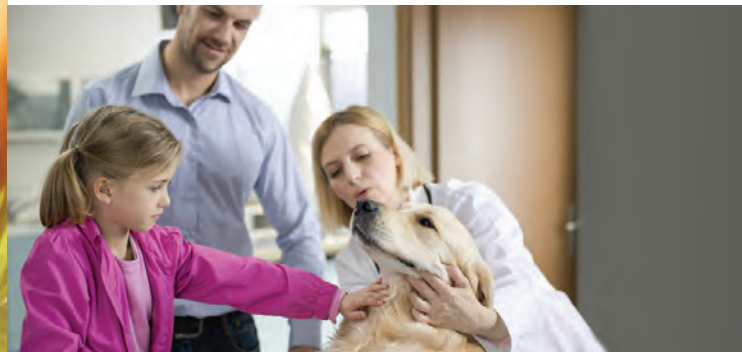
# LYME DISEASE IN DOGS



## PROTECT YOUR PET

Talk to your veterinarian about the need for Lyme disease vaccination, and a safe and effective tick control product that will help protect your dog from tick-borne disease.

**IT IS IMPORTANT TO BE PROACTIVE AS THESE SIGNS MAY APPEAR MANY MONTHS AFTER YOUR DOG HAS BEEN BITTEN BY AN INFECTED TICK.**



# LET'S TALK TICKS

**TICKS ARE 8-LEGGED PARASITES FROM THE ARACHNID FAMILY** that feed off the blood of animals and people in order to grow and reproduce. They can live almost anywhere, but they prefer moist, humid environments.



Ticks lay their eggs on the ground, and their usual habitat is forests and fields. They are most active when the weather is cool and damp, like spring and fall.

## DID YOU KNOW...?

There are two tick "blooms" each year, in the spring and the fall when the weather tends to be cool and damp.

In the United States, *Ixodes scapularis* and *Ixodes pacificus* (also known as black-legged ticks) are the only species that can carry and transmit the Lyme disease bacteria called *Borrelia burgdorferi*. There are other species of ticks that can transmit other diseases to your dog. Speak to your veterinarian about which species may be prevalent in your area and discuss what disease prevention is recommended for your pet's risk factors.

