Ticks in California

**Western black-legged tick**
*Ixodes pacificus*

**Pacific Coast Tick**
*Dermacentor occidentalis*

**American Dog Tick**
*Dermacentor variabilis*

Engorged adult female ticks after a blood meal.

Ticks are found in natural areas that have grasses, shrubs, logs, or leaf litter.
Ticks in California can transmit disease. *Ixodes pacificus* may carry Lyme disease or anaplasmosis. *Dermacentor* ticks may carry Rocky Mountain spotted fever or tularemia.

**Prompt removal of ticks can help prevent disease transmission!**

To remove a tick:

- Use tweezers to grab the tick as close to your skin as possible.
- Pull the tick firmly, straight out, away from the skin (do not jerk, twist or burn the tick).
- Wash your hands and the bite site with soap and water after the tick is removed and apply an antiseptic to the bite site.
- See your doctor if you develop a rash or flu-like symptoms within 30 days after a tick bite.

For more information: http://www.dhs.ca.gov/  
Call: 916-552-9730 or your local health department