

New York State Department of Health Tick Identification Service

Tick identification services are available through the NYS Department of Health and some county health departments. The NYS Department of Health Tick Identification Service will tell you the species of the tick, whether it is engorged with blood and, if so, how long it may have been feeding. The Tick Identification Service will also report whether the mouthparts are present (if not, they may have remained in the skin and need to be removed, as you would a splinter). There is no charge for this service.

The NYS Tick Identification Service **will not** tell you whether the tick is infected with disease-causing organisms. Once you send a tick to be identified it will not be returned. If you wish to have a tick identified, place it in a small jar containing rubbing alcohol. Seal the container to prevent leakage. Complete the [Tick Identification Submittal Form](#). Mail the tick in the sealed container, along with the completed Tick Identification Submittal form to:

The New York State Department of Health
Tick I.D. Service
c/o HVCC Central Receiving
80 Vandenburg Ave
Troy, NY 12180

Couriered or hand-delivered tick specimens should be taken to:

Hudson Valley Community College
Central Receiving Dept. (*Follow the signs to the new location.)

Deliveries will be accepted between the hours of 8am and 3pm when the college is open for business. The college is closed on holidays.