

OAKLAND COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT SCHOOL NURSE NEWSLETTER

May 31st, 2021



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The latest from the state:



Beginning June 1:



Could we return to normal by summer?

<https://www.deseret.com/coronavirus/2021/5/11/22428557/summer-2021-covid-return-to-normal>

Summer 2021 might bring a return to normal

By Herb Scribner@HerbScribner May 11, 2021, 8:00am MDT

When will we return to normal? One expert suggests summer 2021 might be a good place to start.

Returning to normal

Jonathan Reiner, professor of medicine and surgery at George Washington University, told CNN over the weekend that the United States could return to something that looks like normal in a few weeks.

1. “This summer is going to seem so much closer to normal than we’ve had in a very long time,” he told CNN. “The key statistic to think about is ... what percentage of the adult population has received at least one vaccination.”

Currently, 58% of those eligible for the COVID-19 vaccine have received at least one dose, with 43% being fully vaccinated against COVID-19, according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. This is specifically for people who are 18 years old and older. Right now, COVID-19 vaccines are approved for those 16 years and up.

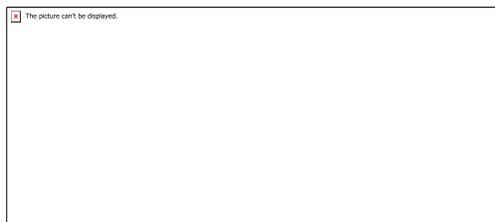
When is the turning point?

Reiner said the country will reach a turning point in May when 60% of people get their first dose of the COVID-19 vaccine.

1. “I expect during the month of May we will see daily cases drop dramatically and deaths finally drop to quite low numbers,” Reiner told CNN.

Dr. Anthony Fauci, White House chief medical adviser on the novel coronavirus, said at the end of April that the U.S. was going to reach a turning point “within a few weeks.”

1. “Literally within a few weeks, we’re going to start to see a turning around of the dynamics,” Fauci said, according to CNBC.
2. “Not down to no infections,” he said, according to CNBC. “If you’re waiting for classic measles-like herd immunity, that’s going to be a while before we get there. But that doesn’t mean we’re not going to have a significant diminution in the number of infections per day and a significant diminution in all of the parameters, namely hospitalizations and deaths.”



There is a ‘tick explosion’ underway in Michigan, here’s why

<https://www.mlive.com/weather/2021/05/there-is-a-tick-explosion-underway-in-michigan-heres-why.html>

Updated May 21, 2021; Posted May 19, 2021



Dog tick, also known as wood tick, in Petoskey, MI on May 17, 2021 (Photo provided by Alex Childress)

By [Mark Torregrossa | mtorregr@mlive.com](mailto:mtorregr@mlive.com)

The picture and posts are all over social media. Michiganders are picking ticks off dogs and themselves and their carpet like they never have before. Experts say there are reasons why a tick explosion is happening across Michigan.

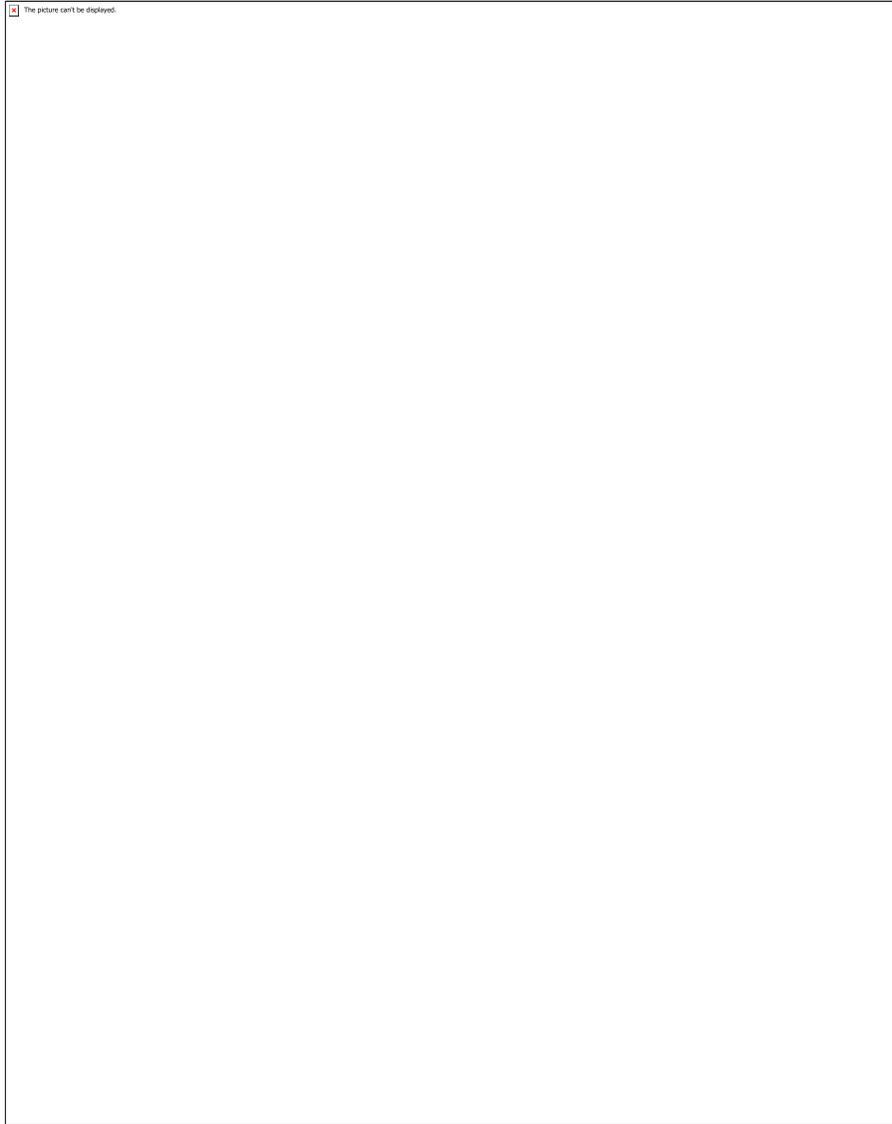
Even bug experts, like Michigan State University entomologist Howard Russell, are not immune to the creepy-crawlers roving over his family, his dog and himself. Russell jokes that he and his wife are saving all of the ticks found in his home near Lansing.



Ticks found in the home of Howard Russell, MSU entomologist so far this spring. (Photo provided by Howard Russell)

Russell says 20 years ago, it was hard to find a tick in Michigan's Lower Peninsula. Over the past two decades, there has been a dramatic increase in dog ticks (shown above from Russell's house) and deer ticks, which are more properly called black-legged ticks.

All of the ticks in Michigan are called "three-host ticks." The ticks spend the first stage of their life as a small larvae on one host. The tick then goes to its next life stage as a nymph and finds a second host, which is usually a larger animal or a human. The third stage is an adult tick, which also hosts on larger animals.



Jean Tsao, associate professor in Fisheries and Wildlife and Large Animal Critical Sciences at MSU, has been studying what most people call the deer tick, or black-footed tick, which is the tick that can transmit Lyme disease. Tsao says changing weather may have something to do with the tick overload. Milder winters bring a longer growing season, allowing ticks a longer time to find a host and then lay eggs.

Tsao says researchers in Ontario in the early 2000s found ticks much farther north. The short growing season did not allow the ticks to survive and breed successfully. In Michigan now, it's a different story. Tsao notes an adult female tick can lay several thousand eggs.

In talking with Tsao, she mentioned ticks like to overwinter in wet leaves, with the moisture keeping their bodies from drying up. I noted that 10 of the last 15 winters in the Great Lakes have been wetter than normal.

Ticks were actually all around Lower Michigan 20 years ago, but not abundant. Howard Russell, known as "the Bug Man" at MSU, doesn't really know why they wouldn't be here. Ticks moved their way up the west side of Lower Michigan through the wooded areas, and then traversed over into northeast Lower Michigan over the years. Michigan's Thumb was the last area to see the arrival of ticks. Now Russell says ticks are even being found in the Thumb, although not in large numbers. The widespread farmland, less trees and tall grass makes the Thumb a not-so-favorite place for ticks.

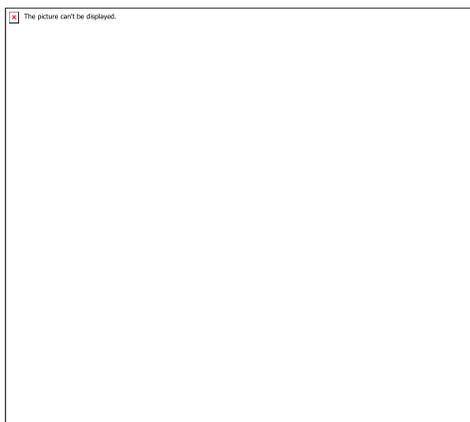
Tsao says the ticks probably had a more speedy spread through Michigan on the wings of migrating birds. Birds are one of the favored hosts for ticks. As the climate changed over the past few decades, the migration pattern of the birds changed, probably helping ticks make it into northern Lower Michigan.

Don't think that one very cold winter will cut back the tick population, like it can the mosquito population. Ticks are very cold hardy. In fact, Tsao theorizes the opposite could be true. The ticks of the northern and western lake effect snow areas are usually winter-protected under thick snow. Tsao says it's possible that if warmer winters brought less snow to the lake-effect snowbelts, the ground could freeze and thaw more. The freeze-thaw cycle could kill ticks during winter.

But don't expect that to happen anytime soon. Tsao says, "I don't think the tick population has peaked, and their range is still increasing."

Are you itching all over now, imagining creepy-crawlers on your legs and scalp? Well get used to it, say the experts, or move into the farmland of the Thumb.

Author's note: The white-footed mouse tick originally mentioned above is actually called the black-legged tick.



Michigan has a tick problem. Here's what you need to know

<https://www.freep.com/story/news/local/michigan/2021/05/27/ticks-michigan/7448139002/>

Emma Stein

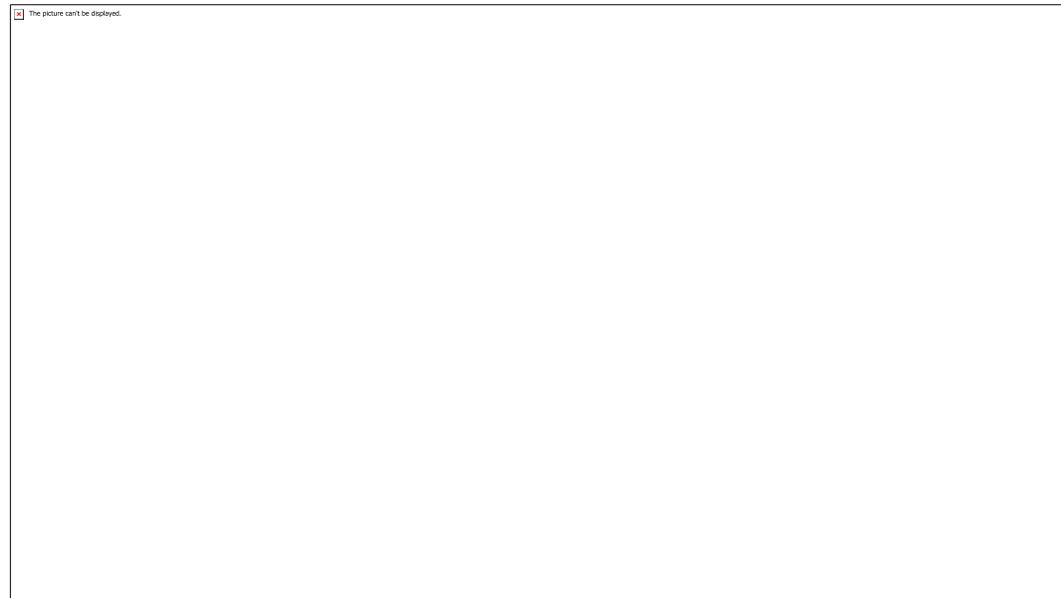
Detroit Free Press

Ticks may seem like innocent, pesky little insects but they can carry diseases that lead to serious health concerns.

Here's how to deal with the insurgence of ticks without letting it ruin your summer.

How do I prevent ticks?

1. Perform tick checks on yourself and your pets after coming in from the outside, whether it's a hike or playing with your dog in the backyard. Thoroughly check your hair, your clothes and every small crevice. Check your pets, too!
2. Take a shower after being outside.
3. Use EPA-certified insect repellent (but avoid ingesting it, and make sure to check with a veterinarian before spraying your pet).



I found a tick, now what?

The first thing to do is take a deep breath, there's no need to panic. Some ticks do not carry any diseases, and even if they do, it usually takes at least 24 hours for the pathogen to transmit.

1. Remove the tick with tweezers at an even, steady rate to ensure it does not break off. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention warns against using your bare hands or methods of burning it off, as the goal is to keep the tick intact and remove it as quickly as possible.
2. Clean the bite area with soap and water or rubbing alcohol.
3. Dispose of the tick by wrapping it carefully and putting it in a sealed container or flushing it down the toilet.

They're just bugs, why does it matter?

Ticks can be vectors for a variety of diseases, from Lyme disease to Rocky Mountain spotted fever to the deadly meat allergy. If you notice any symptoms — including fever, headache, muscle aches or a rash — after removing a tick, call your doctor immediately and seek treatment.

Ticks in Michigan

<https://www.pestworld.org/ticks-by-state/michigan/>

Capable of spreading dangerous diseases such as tularemia and Lyme disease, ticks are one of the most concerning pests to encounter. Known for latching onto both people and pets for a bloodmeal, proper tick prevention is essential for personal health and wellbeing. Ticks are most active outdoors during warmer months and can be found across the country, including in Michigan.

List of Common Types of Ticks in Michigan

Out of more than 20 different tick species identified in Michigan, there are four in particular that state residents should look out for:

AMERICAN DOG TICK



BLACK LEGGED TICK



BROWN DOG TICK



LONE STAR TICK



Get Vaccinated

All Oakland County residents aged 12 and older are now eligible to receive a COVID-19 vaccine.

Oakland County now offers Save Your Spot Community Clinics. Set an appointment online or simply walk-in to receive a vaccine. There are no barriers to getting the vaccine and more places than ever to find a shot, including local pharmacies and health care providers.

Do you need help scheduling an appointment in another language? Call 800-848-5533.

Scheduling an Appointment Save Your Spot Community Clinics

If your vaccine requires two doses, you will book both appointments at the same time.

Addison Township Fire Department

4026 Forest St. Leonard, MI 48367

Friday, May 21, 2021 1 – 4 PM

Note: not a drive thru, park and walk in.

Walk-up vaccinations available.

Suburban Showplace

46100 Grand River Ave., Novi

May 22nd, 9am – 12pm

Milford Senior Center

1050 Atlantic St., Milford

May 24th, 12pm - 7pm

Walk-up vaccinations available.

Lighthouse

46156 Woodward Ave, Pontiac, MI 48342

May 24th, 9am - 3pm (18+)

Walk-up vaccinations available.

Commerce Township Library

180 E. Commerce Rd., Commerce Twp.

May 25th, 9am - 4pm

Walk-up vaccinations available.

[Get Directions](#)[Make Appointment](#)

Schoenhals Building

16500 Lincoln Rd., Southfield, MI

May 25th 4pm - 6pm

Walk-up vaccinations available.

White Lake Township Library

11005 Elizabeth Lk. Rd., White Lake

May 26th, 11am - 6pm

Walk-up vaccinations available.

Oak Valley Middle School

4200 White Oak Trail, Commerce Twp

May 26th, 3:30pm - 7:30am

(Drive-Thru | Accepts Drive-Ups)

St. Vincent de Paul Gym

46408 Woodward Ave., Pontiac, MI 48342

May 26th, 2:30pm – 6:30pm

Walk-up vaccinations available.

[Get Directions](#)[Make Appointment](#)

Highland Activity Center

209 N. John St. Highland

May 27th, 9am - 3pm

Walk-up vaccinations available.

[Get Directions](#)[Make Appointment](#)

Troy Athens High School

4333 John R. Rd, Troy

May 27th, 3pm - 7pm

(Drive-Thru | Accepts Drive-Ups)

[Get Directions](#)[Make Appointment](#)

Brandon Middle School

609 S. Ortonville Rd., Ortonville

June 3rd, 3pm - 7pm

(Drive-Thru | Accepts Drive-Ups)

[Get Directions](#)[Make Appointment](#)

Lighthouse

46156 Woodward Ave, Pontiac, MI 48342

June 7th, 9:00am - 3:00pm (18+)

June 14th, 9:00am - 3:00pm (18+)

Walk-up vaccinations available.

[Get Directions](#)[Make Appointment](#)

Additional Vaccine Providers

Organizations across the state are working hard to vaccinate Michiganders. As a result, there are many places to look when scheduling an appointment. Try signing up on multiple lists for the best chance at a nearer appointment date.

Ascension Providence

Beaumont Save My Shot

CVS Pharmacy

Henry Ford Health System

Kroger

Meijer

Rite Aid

St. Joseph Mercy Oakland

Walgreens

Walmart

Looking for another provider?

Use the State of Michigan's Local Health Department Map.

Just Need Your Second Dose?

Contact the provider where you received the first dose or call us at 800-848-5533 for assistance during the hours below.

Hours: Monday - Friday: 8:00am – 6:00pm | Saturday: 9:00am – 12:00pm

Come Prepared for Your Appointment For All Vaccination Clinics

1. Wear a mask.
2. Wear clothing that allows your arm to be easily accessible.
3. Bring a valid photo ID and have it available when you arrive on site.
4. A parent or legal guardian must attend the appointment of anyone under 18 to provide consent for the vaccination.
5. Print your email receipt (recommended) or show proof of email on your phone. Please ensure the QR code in the email is available to scan.

For Drive-Thru Clinics

1. Remain in your vehicle the entire time. The vehicle will be directed by staff through the process.
2. Pets are not allowed in the vehicle. The vaccination cannot be given if pets are in the vehicle.



Oakland County Health Department Nurse On Call:

Monday through Friday: 8a-6p

Saturday: 9a-12n

1-800-848-5533

TESTING:

Testing allows our Health Division to monitor the virus in our community and keep us safe and open. Testing is available at no cost for all residents age 18 and older with or without symptoms. Children 4-17 years old. Child must have symptoms of COVID 19 and be a resident of or attend school in Oakland County

Appointments only

SAME DAY APPOINTMENTS ARE NOT AVAILABLE

Monday through Friday

1-800-848-5533

Register for Oakland County's COVID 19 Newsletter by following this

link: www.oaklandcountyvaccine.com or text **OAKGOV COVID** to 468311

We recommend that households with students that are experiencing 2 or more symptoms of COVID have the student tested with a Covid PCR test prior to returning to school.

