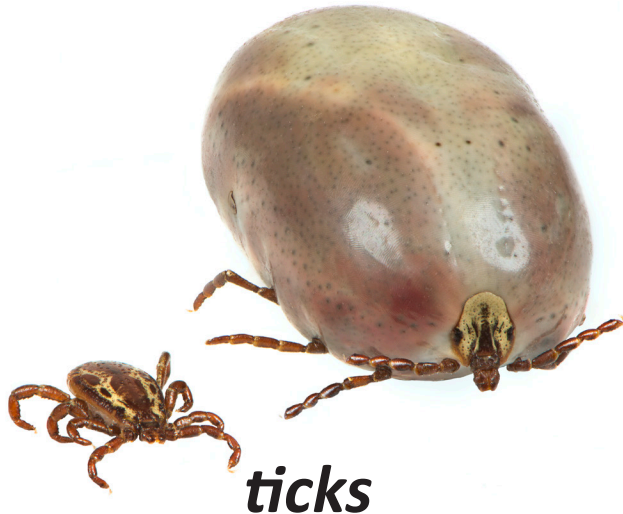# Love Your Pets?
Protect Them from Vectors!

ticks

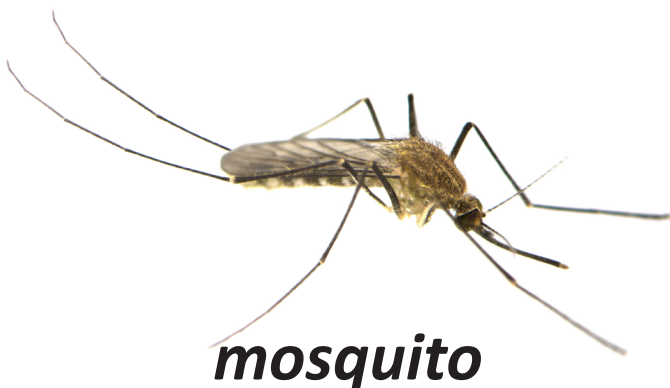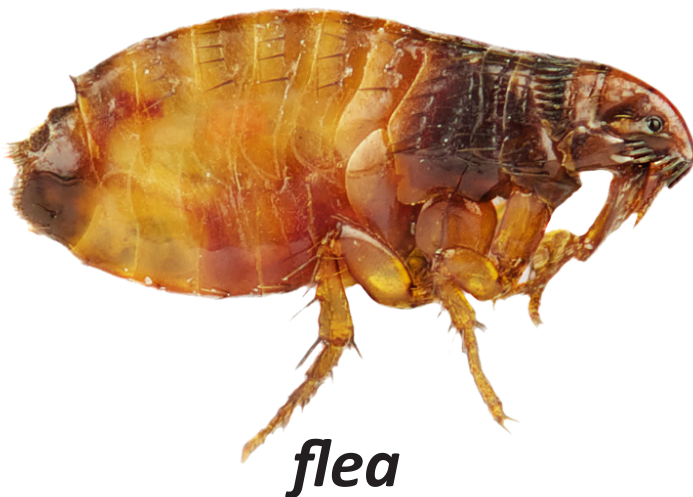*Ticks, fleas, & mosquitoes bite & suck blood from vertebrate animals.*

They can transmit (vector) bacteria, viruses, & heart worms that cause disease.

Feral & other unwanted animals enter your yard, bringing with them a host of parasites.

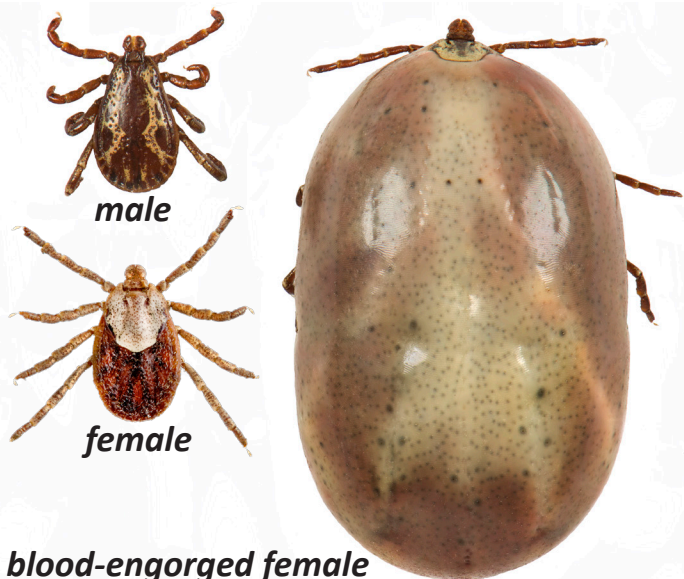*Some of those unwanted animals can physically harm your pets.*

Vex those Vectors

- Keep your pets on flea and tick control.
- Discourage feral & other unwanted animals from your yard.
- Feed & water pets indoors, or at least bring their food & water indoors at night.
- Pick up & dispose pet waste daily.
- Keep trash cans & compost covered.
- Thin out dense shrubs where vectors often hide & nest.
- Prune vegetation away from fences & walls.
- Empty out standing water sources to eliminate mosquito larvae.
- Change bird bath water at least once a week.
- Clean up spilled bird seed often.
- Use baffles to keep unwanted animals out of bird feeders.
- Install metal fencing to 24 inches below grade to prevent animals from burrowing under the fence.

flea

mosquito

Orange County Mosquito and Vector Control District
13001 Garden Grove Blvd., Garden Grove, CA 92843
ocvector.org • facebook.com/ocvectorcontrol • twitter.com/ocvector

Going Outdoors?

Protect Yourself from Ticks!

male

female

blood-engorged female

Ticks bite & suck blood from vertebrate animals.

They can transmit (vector) bacteria that cause disease.

Our most common species is the Pacific Coast Tick, Dermacentor occidentalis.

It vectors the bacteria Rickettsia phillipi, causative agent of Pacific Coast Tick Fever.

Tips to outwit Ticks

- Wear a hat.
- Ticks travel upward. Dress to keep ticks outside of your clothing, giving you lots of time to find & remove them.
- Wear a long-sleeved shirt or a slick jacket such as a windbreaker.
- Do not wear a sweater or other fuzzy clothing that ticks can easily grab.
- Tuck shirt into pants.
- Wear light-colored clothing so you can see ticks & remove them.
- Tuck pants into socks.
- Wear boots or shoes, no sandals or bare feet.
- Use tick repellant (follow the label).
- Hike in the center of groomed trails.
- Check yourself for ticks every 10 minutes.
- Consult your health care provider if you find an attached tick.