

Tick Prevention Landscape Checklist

Check all that apply:

- Are the grassy areas and lawns mowed?
- Is the leaf litter, brush and weeds at the edge of the lawn removed?
- Is the brush and leaf litter around stone walls, wood piles and foundations removed?
- Are there unsealed gaps in and under stone walls, foundations, sheds, or under stacks of stored materials that can harbor rodents? (If checked, this should be remedied)
- Are the tree branches and shrubs around the lawn edge trimmed?
- Is there a 3 foot or wider border of wood chips, mulch, or gravel between lawn and woods?
- Are the shrubs, trees and flower beds maintained and pruned to discourage rodents and reduce shade?
- Are the wooded trails wide and vegetation is opened up at trail edges to reduce shade?
- Are the swings and equipment away from wooded areas and on mulch or wood chip foundation?
- Are the birdfeeders away from play areas?
- Is there deer fencing in place to keep deer off the playground?

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Actions that can be taken:

- Install a 3-foot or wider wood chip, mulch, or gravel border between lawn and woods.
- Maintain and prune shrubs, trees and flower beds.
- Widen and clean up woodland trails.
- Move swing sets and sand boxes away from the woodland edge and place them on a wood chip or mulch foundation.
- Eliminate rodent habitat by sealing gaps in and under stone walls, foundations, and sheds and by removing stacks of stored materials
- Use of deer fencing to keep deer away from playground.
- Keep bird feeders away from the play areas and clean up spilled bird food.

Notes/Action Needed:

This checklist is a result of collaboration between Maine Department of Education School Nurse Consultant and Maine Department of Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry Integrated Pest Management Entomologist.