

Lyme Disease and Autumn Tick Peak

Version 1.0

FAME H&S Notices are real-world examples of incidents, provided anonymously by FAME members, that highlight learning opportunities for the sector to improve our health and safety efforts.

The Incident

Two separate FAME members have had incidents of Lyme disease recently. Lyme disease is a bacterial infection that can be spread to humans by infected ticks. The most likely times to get infected are in the spring and autumn seasons, though all year-round is possible. Given the warmer-than-average weather this season, this second peak may run into November this year.

Quick actions

To reduce the risk of being bitten:

- cover your skin while walking outdoors and tuck your trousers into your socks
- use insect repellent on your clothes and skin
- stick to paths whenever possible
- wear light-coloured clothing so ticks are easier to spot and brush off

Full Advice

FAME has created an advice guide on Lyme and other tick-transmitted diseases which can be downloaded, for free, here:

<https://famearchaeology.co.uk/archaeology-and-tick-borne-diseases-a-fame-guide/>

IMPORTANT: for organisations working in the UK, HSE now recovers the costs of time spent dealing with material breaches of health and safety law. This is known as Fee for Intervention (FFI). FFI generally applies when an Inspector finds something wrong that they believe is serious enough for them to write to you about. A fee is charged for the time spent by the Inspector, currently £188 **per hour** of their time.

Advice not guidance

These examples are present as learning opportunities. However, they are not designed to replace existing guidance, and this information is provided

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