

Appendix

Safety precautions

IDENTIFICATION OF POISON IVY (*Toxicodendron radicans*)

Poison ivy (*Toxicodendron radicans*) is a toxic plant native to North America. It was found in every Canadian province. Contact of skin with this plant causes dermatitis in most people. Poison ivy grows in a wide range of habitats and varies greatly in size and form (shrub, vine). The following traits allow confident identification.



- Leaf made of three leaflets (circled in red)
- Asymmetrical leaflets, with irregular and sometimes toothed edges
- Central petiole (circled in white) longer than the two others

For more information:
espacepurlavie.ca/en/learn-recognize-poison-ivy

Poison ivy leaf
Photo: Jardin botanique de Montréal (Lise Servant)

LYME DISEASE PREVENTION

During the last years, Lyme disease has become a health issue in eastern Canada. This disease is transmitted to humans by black-footed ticks (*Ixodes scapularis*) infected by bacteria of the genus *Borrelia*. It is the infection by those bacteria that causes Lyme disease in humans.



Blacklegged (deer) tick
Photo: USDA

To avoid ticks, wear long pants and closed shoes when going in the field. Ticks hang out in tall grasses. It is thus preferable to avoid this type of vegetation.

To get information on Lyme disease specific to your province, visit:
www.canada.ca/en/public-health/services/diseases/lyme-disease/provincial-territorial-resources.html