## SAG HARBOR Meighbors

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XPERT CONTRIBUTOR

## In Sag Harbor, home is where the... ticks are!

Did you know that approximately 70% of people who contract Lyme Disease each year are bitten by ticks in their very own yard? And that cases of dangerous tick-borne illnesses such as Lyme Disease, Ehrlichiosis, Babesiosis, Anaplasmosis and Rocky Mountain Spotted Fever have more than doubled in the last 15 years? Who knows how many blood-sucking, disease-carrying ticks are hiding in tall grass in your yard? Especially this spring and summer, when experts are again expecting a bad tick season. A tick disease is the last thing you need right now. What can you do to protect yourself and your family? Call us today. For 25 years, we've provided the most effective, environmentally-responsible, yearround tick prevention program possible. Be safe. Call now for your free estimate.



## East End Tick and **Mosquito Control** Celebrates 25 Years

By Brian Kelly



East End Tick & Mosquito Control is thrilled to share that they're celebrating their 25th year of business! The company was started in 1997 by owner Brian Kelly and his father, Ray, and is the first



specialized tick and mosquito company on Long Island with 25 years of extensive knowledge serving Long Island's East Endfrom Moriches to Montauk, Wading River to Orient Point, and Shelter Island. When the company first started, Lyme disease, which is carried by blacklegged (deer) ticks, was just becoming recognized as a serious threat. In 2002, the first human Lyme vaccine, LYMErix, was discounted due to "lack of customer interest," and it was then that Brian and his father realized how urgently their services were needed.

After many successful years and requests from various clients to expand his business to include other pests, Brian opened Twin Forks Pest Control in 2012, which specializes in residential integrated pest management. The company currently services the entire East End and continues to grow year after year.

Tick-borne diseases have continued to grow since 1997, and we have just learned of another found on Long Island, the Heartland Tick Virus, which was first confirmed in 2009 and has claimed the lives of many people, primarily in the Midwest. Most disturbing is that the virus is transmitted through the Lone Star tick, which is the most frequently-encountered tick on Eastern Long Island.

With the rise of tick-borne diseases and new ones constantly being discovered, it's important to protect yourself and your family by having your yard sprayed monthly using a licensed tick control expert. Brian is an active community member and is on the board of the Suffolk County Tick Control Advisory Committee; is a tick bite prevention partner with the Regional Tick-Borne Disease Resource Center at Stony Brook Southampton Hospital; is a supporter of the Empire State Lyme Disease Association; and is creator of Tick Wise Education, which teaches children and adults how to prevent and properly deal with ticks.

East End Tick and Mosquito Control was the first and only New York State licensed and dedicated tick specialist. They are family owned and operated, and the company specializes in both traditional and organic control methods, offering alternatives to harsh pesticides. Their philosophy has always been that prevention is better than a cure, and they have one goal: to keep you and your family safe.

East End Tick and Mosquito Control: Southampton 631-287-9700 — East Hampton 631-324-9700 — Southold 631-765-9700