

From: [Maria Mason](#)
To: [Town Admin](#)
Subject: Lack of signage on the Island about the lone star tick
Date: Thursday, July 16, 2026 4:38:54 PM





Dear Jeffrey, Jessica and Cynthia-

I was in the Vineyard visiting friends, June 2, 2026. I used to live there and was in fact married on the Island. I was absolutely baffled that there were no signs either on the ferry, or on any of the beaches that I went to about the lone star tick.

I am in the process of writing every select board member on the Island to voice my concerns. The ferry is the most obvious place to have posters about the tick. I understand that it is a separate entity, and I will be contacting them this afternoon. I went to South Beach, State Beach and visited some golf courses while I was there, but saw no signage at all.

According to the Vineyard Gazette this tick has been an issue on the island since 2011.

In restaurants, I saw menus that had AG by items that people could eat if they have the alpha-gal syndrome. There are people from other countries and states that come to the Vineyard unaware that a single tick bite might change their life. Why in the world is this Island so behind in educating the public?

Having the governor Maura Healey, is a step in the right direction to bring this problem to the forefront. Also that the hospital is tracking people with

symptoms, but that isn't enough.

Since June 26, 2026 the New York Times has written six articles on the lone star tick. This tick is in 30 countries on 6 continents.

Please bring up the lack of signage at your next meeting.

Many thanks in advance.

Maria Mabee Mason

Bainbridge Island, Washington 98110

206-919-9720