

**Saturday, February 1<sup>st</sup>, 2:00 PM presentation by Dr. Rick Ostfeld at the Tuxedo Park Library. Reservations being taken by the Library at 351-2207.**

“**Conventional wisdom and reality in the ecology of Lyme disease**” is the title of his talk. Dr. Ostfeld will describe the natural history of the ticks that transmit Lyme disease, the animal hosts the ticks feed on, and the New York landscapes shared by ticks, hosts, and people. He will give highlights of the studies he has conducted over the past 20 years that challenge conventional wisdom about human risk of exposure. He will show why white-footed mice are critical in affecting risk, clarify the role of deer, and talk about how opossums and foxes protect our health. He will also describe some promising new interventions that could help reduce the public health burden of Lyme and other tick-borne diseases.

Dr. Rick Ostfeld, Disease Ecologist of the Cary Institute located in Millbrook NY, has been researching the ecology of Lyme disease for over 20 years. Dr. Ostfeld's research focuses on the interactions among organisms that influence the risk of human exposure to vector-borne diseases and the dynamics of terrestrial communities (e.g., tree regeneration, rodent and songbird populations, gypsy moths).

The Village has partnered with the Tuxedo Park Garden Club and the Library to sponsor this presentation. It will be the first of a number of presentations inspired by this talk. The Library has already announced a series that will use Dr. Ostfeld's presentation as the springboard for speakers who will focus on dealing with Lyme disease. The Garden Club is developing its programs and the Village will use this as part of the basis for an approach to forest/land/watershed management.

The Cary Institute of Ecosystem Studies is a highly regarded private research organization devoted to ecological research. Visit the website that fully explains their mission and the scientific work going on. (<http://www.caryinstitute.org>) ...

**Seating is limited for the talk, so call soon to reserve your place – 351-2207**