

# Marshall County Schools

Office of Student Services, Title I, and State Assessment

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## Pediculosis (Lice) Protocol

When any child in Marshall County School System is found to have live lice or nits, the following procedures will be followed:

1. The parent or guardian of the child will be contacted.
2. Every child found to have live lice or nits will be given a prepared packet of information containing literature on lice and lice treatment to take home in their backpack.
3. The parent will be informed that the child must be provided the appropriate treatment at home in the evening hours and return to school the next day.
4. The student is to return to their classroom to continue their educational day.
5. Students in Marshall County can no longer be excused for days missed to treat lice nor be sent home.

The American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP) does not recommend pediculosis screenings, saying “screening for nits alone is not an accurate way of predicting which children will become infested”.

October 11, 2016

## HEAD LICE TO DEAD LICE

Alternative treatment that can be used in place of, or following, the use of an over-the-counter lice treatment.

### Head Lice Facts

- \*The presence of head lice is not a sign of poor personal hygiene.
- \*Head lice cannot be caught from pets, other animals or plants. They live on human heads.
- \*Head lice cannot jump or fly.
- \*Head lice do not cause disease. An outbreak of head lice is not a public health emergency.

### Day 1

#### 1. Use Olive Oil and/or a pediculicide

If you use the Olive Oil- see Day 2-3 for treatment directions.

OR- use a pediculicide which is an over-the-counter lice shampoo or crème rinse. This kills most of the live lice but not all. Read the labels carefully and discuss the product with your doctor or pharmacist. Use only once.

A new product called LICE-Free has been reported by parents to work well. It does not contain any chemicals.

#### 2. Comb/pick the nits out

Leave the olive oil in the hair for the comb out. Using a good nit comb, comb the hair in sections. Then comb carefully over the entire head. If the comb does not work well in your child's hair, you may need to literally pick them out with your fingers.

#### 3. Clean the environment

Clean your house well once. Vacuuming, washing bed linens and clothing should be included. You can bag up stuffed animals and hair supplies or soak them in hot water. After that, focus on the head, pillow case and pajamas. The sprays are not effective and may even be harmful to your health.

#### 4. Check all family members and treat if needed.

### Days 2-3

#### 1. The olive oil treatment

Olive oil smothers and kills the live lice and nits! Apply liberally to the scalp and hair. It then must be left on for at least 8 hours. Then shampoo out with regular shampoo. NOTE: The olive oil kills by covering the holes through which the lice breathe. If the lice aren't completely covered by the oil, they may not die. But the oil will slow them down, allowing them to be caught in the nit comb. If the pediculicide fails to kill a bug, it means that bug is resistant and will never be killed by that chemical no matter how many times you use it. This is not true of the olive oil. Each time you use the olive oil, it has a good chance of smothering the bug and nit.

#### 2. Comb/pick the nits out

#### 3. Clean

Wash bedding and places where your child places his/her head (sofa, car seat, favorite cushion...) Wash the pillow case and pajamas daily for 10-14 days.

### Days 3-14

1. Olive Oil Treatment - Continue to use Olive Oil every 3 days if you are still seeing nits.

2. Comb /pick the nits out -Continue to comb/pick the nits out.

3. Clean - Continue to wash the pillow case and pajamas

Repeat the olive oil every three days until all nits are gone. This may take more than a week depending on how good of a "nit-picker" you are. If you miss the olive oil treatment days or quit nit picking, more nits may hatch and then you must start all over again.

## Lice Life Cycle

### Life Cycle:

Day 0- Nit (lice egg)

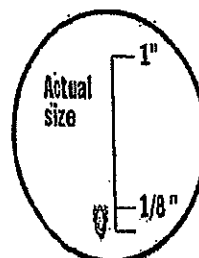
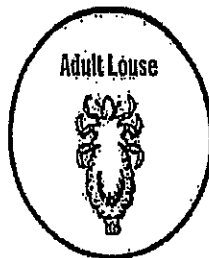
Days 6-7 Lice hatch

Days 8-16- Matures

Days 17-19 Starts to reproduce

Days 19-32 Lays eggs

Days 33-35 Can't to lay eggs and then dies



Note- If a mature louse (single word for lice) attaches to the hair it may begin to lay eggs immediately so lice may start hatching within a few days. If a live nit remains on the hair shaft, it will hatch and start the whole process all over again.

The above is provided for informational purposes only. For additional medical information, please consult your primary care physician.

# Lice Treatment Calendar

<b>Day 1</b>	<b>Day 2</b>	<b>Day 3</b>	<b>Day 4</b>	<b>Day 5</b>	<b>Day 6</b>	<b>Day 7</b>
Clean House. Treat Hair with Lice Shampoo *, comb out & remove all nits *use olive oil 6-8hrs (overnight) on hair if under 2 or pregnant	If olive oil used overnight, comb out hair, shampoo, and then remove all nits (nitpick)				Comb out hair and then shampoo.	
<b>Day 8</b>	<b>Day 9</b>	<b>Day 10</b>	<b>Day 11</b>	<b>Day 12</b>	<b>Day 13</b>	<b>Day 14</b>
	Olive Oil at night—leave on hair 6-8hrs (overnight)	Comb out hair and shampoo.			Nitpick hair once clean and dry.	Comb out hair and shampoo.
<b>Day 15</b>	<b>Day 16</b>	<b>Day 17</b>	<b>Day 18</b>	<b>Day 19</b>	<b>Day 20</b>	<b>Day 21</b>
		Olive Oil at night—leave on hair 6-8hrs (overnight)	Comb out hair and shampoo.		Olive Oil at night—leave on hair 6-8hrs (overnight)	Nitpick hair once clean and dry.
<b>Day 22</b>	<p>Using the Lice Treatment Calendar:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Mark Day 1 as the day Lice Shampoo is initially applied (or Olive Oil Treatment if unable to use Lice Shampoo).</li> <li>2. Add in the day and the month to make it easier to follow.</li> <li>3. Complete all treatments whether or not signs of lice and/or nits are visible.</li> <li>3. Always wash hands and clean fingernails after picking nits.</li> </ol>					
<p><b>FINAL Comb out and Nitpick!</b></p> <p>Treatment is complete!</p> <p>Adapted from Sawyer's Head Lice to Dead Lice Olive Oil Treatment Calendar, <a href="http://www.headlicetodeadlice.com">www.headlicetodeadlice.com</a></p>						

# TREATMENT

- ❖ Use lice treatment products as directed on packaging
- ❖ Wash all clothes and bedding in hot water and dry on high heat
- ❖ If unable to wash all clothes and bedding (including stuffed animals), place items in sealed garbage bags for two weeks
- ❖ Put on clean clothes after treatment
- ❖ Soak ALL combs and brushes in hot water for 10 minutes
- ❖ Continue to check hair regularly and brush hair with a nit comb daily for 2 to 3 weeks until all lice and nits are gone
- ❖ Vacuum all floors and furniture
- ❖ Check ALL family members in your family if one member has lice
- ❖ Alternative treatment method:
  - Keep all combs and brushes in freezer while lice are present in the household- lice won't survive in the frozen temperature



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# PREVENTION

- ❖ Avoid head to head (hair to hair) contact during play and other activities—including group “selfie” pictures
- ❖ DO NOT share clothing or accessories such as hats, scarves, coats, sports uniforms, hair ribbons or barrettes
- ❖ DO NOT share combs, brushes, towels, helmets, head sets, or ear buds
- ❖ Check your family’s hair often for small white nits. Nits appear as a piece of dandruff but do not flake off the strand of hair. They are usually seen behind the ear and at the base of the neck. Using a bright light may help when checking hair.
- ❖ Some alternative prevention methods:
  - Tree Tea Oil- put 5-6 drops of tree tea oil in your shampoo and use it regularly as a preventative treatment
  - Use shampoos containing olive or coconut oil
  - Use coconut scented shampoo daily- lice dislike the scent



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