Ticks in Montana

Commonly reported tick-borne diseases in Montana, 2011-2017

What is a tick?
Small arachnids that require a warm-blooded host for survival.

Left to Right: Rocky Mountain wood tick: unengorged female, 1/4 engorged, 1/2 engorged and fully engorged.

How can you protect yourself?

Use repellant with 20 percent or more DEET, picaridin, or IR3535 on exposed skin, treat clothing and tents with products containing 0.5% permethrin

Inspect yourself after being outdoors

Shower after coming indoors to wash off and more easily spot ticks on your body

What ticks are commonly found in Montana:

- Brown Dog Tick
- Rocky Mountain Wood Tick
- Spring/Summer: Colorado Tick Fever, average 1 case per year, caused by *Borrelia burgdorferi*
- Spring/Summer: Rocky Mountain Spotted Fever, average 6 cases per year, fever, malaise, characteristic rash
- Tularemia, average 4 cases per year, can be associated with exposure to infected rabbits or rodents
- Summer: Lyme Disease*, average 11 cases per year, bull’s eye rash, fatigue, fever
- Summer: Tickborne Relapsing Fever, average 1 case per year

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