

The Rocky Mountain Wood Tick

(Dermacentor andersoni)

- **Interior British Columbia Tick:**
(from U.S. border north to **Williams Lake** and east into Alberta)
- 3-Host Tick: 1st and 2nd Hosts are rodents and small animals,
- 3rd Host are deer, cattle, **dogs**, sheep and **humans**
- Frequent in **March** and **June** in open rocky areas
- Ticks “quest” (look and crawl onto a host) near tops of grass and low shrubs
- Ticks climb upwards and attach their mouth to a host by a hardening excretion
- Bites can be painful or not at all, no fever and can be slow to heal
- Low disease risk if tick removal is prompt
- Ticks cause tick paralysis in mammals including humans caused by a neurotoxin in the tick saliva
- Tick paralysis occurs after a female tick has been feeding for 5 days.
- Paralysis looks like uncoordination or collapse (numbness in feet and legs, then numbness in hands and arms and partial paralysis of throat and tongue muscles)
- Death could occur if tick is not removed!

For more information:



<https://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/industry/agriculture-seafood/animals-and-crops/plant-health/insects-and-plant-diseases/home-garden/ticks>