There are about 12 tick species found in Minnesota. Below are the most common ticks found on people and domestic animals:

**AMERICAN DOG TICK**
(aka “Wood Tick”)

- **Female**
- **Male**
- **Nymph**
- **Larvae**

**Distinguishing Features:**
- Short and broad mouthparts.
- Festoons along edge with “Y-shaped” anal groove.

**BLACKLEGGED TICK**
(aka “Deer Tick”)

- **Female**
- **Male**
- **Nymph**
- **Larvae**

**Distinguishing Features:**
- Long and pointed mouthparts.
- Upside-down “U-shaped” anal groove with no festoons.

**Other Concerning Ticks:**
The following species could potentially be found in Minnesota and affect humans and animals, either by causing heavy tick infestations or disease. Each is of interest to the Minnesota Department of Health (MDH) and Board of Animal Health (BAH). Consider submitting any tick that cannot be identified as a wood tick or deer tick, such as:

- Lone Star Tick
- Brown Dog Tick
- Gulf Coast Tick
- Asian Longhorned Tick
- Cattle Tick

**WHERE TO CHECK YOUR PET FOR TICKS:**

- Around the eyelids
- Around the collar
- Under the front legs
- Between the toes
- Between the back legs
- Around the tail

**CONTACT US:**
If you see a suspicious tick and want to know what it is – mail it with the tick submission form [here](http://www.mn.gov/bah/ticks) or contact MDH at 651-201-5414 or health.bugbites@state.mn.us.

If you suspect an animal has Rocky Mountain spotted fever, tularemia, or another vectorborne disease of public health significance—NOT Lyme disease or anaplasmosis—report to the BAH by calling 651-296-2942 during business hours or the Minnesota Duty Officer 800-422-0798 outside business hours.

Common clinical signs of tickborne illness in animals:
- Fever
- Enlarged lymph nodes
- Lameness
- Lethargy
- Anorexia