

“Deer Proof” Plants

The following list is of plants that deer typically do not demolish. Each group of deer are different, their tastes will vary from yard to yard. Studies have shown that over a 2-year period, deer will taste test everything in your yard. NOTHING IS DEER PROOF!

Perennials

Artemisia
Astilbe
Bee Balm
Bergenia
Bleeding Heart
Campanula
Cardinal Flower
Columbine
Coral Bells
Delphinium
Foxglove
Hardy Geranium
Hardy Hibiscus
Hellebore
Iris
Lady's Mantle
Lamium
Monkshood
Oriental Poppy
Peony
Perennial Alyssum
Pulmonaria
Salvia
Shasta Daisy
Wild Ginger
Yarrow
Yucca

Annuals and Biennials

Ageratum
Dusty Miller
Forget-Me-Not
French Marigold
Lantana
Larkspur
Lobelia
Morning Glory
Moonflower
Nasturtium
Ornamental Pepper
Snapdragon
Stock
Sunflower
Wax Begonia
Zinnia

Herbs

Observers rate many herbs as deer-resistant because of their strong aromas and flavors.

Anise Hyssop

Basil
Borago
Catmint
Chamomile
Chives
Dill
Fennel
Lamb's Ears
Lavender
Lemon Balm
Mint
Oregano
Parsley
Rosemary
Sage
Thyme

Bulbs

Allium
Autumn Crocus
Crocus
Daffodil, Jonquil, Narcissus
Glory of the Snow
Grape Hyacinth
Surprise Lily
Various Flowering
Onions

Grasses

Dwarf Fountain Grass
Japanese Silver Grass
Liriope
Northern Sea Oats

Trees

These trees are rated by various observers to be rarely damaged, seldom severely damaged or deer-resistant. Protect small seedlings with tree shelters.

American Holly
Beech
Birch: European, White, Paper
Catalpa
Corkscrew Willow
Dogwood: Red
Osier, Kousa
Eastern Red Cedar
(Juniperis virginiana)
Ginkgo
Hickory
Japanese Flowering Cherry

Locust: Black
Honey
Mimosa
Sassafras, Common
Smoke Tree
Sourwood
Spruce: Colorado, Blue, Norway, White
Sweet Gum
Sycamore
Tulip Tree

Shrubs

Barberry
Bayberry
Beautybush
Butterfly Bush
Chinese Holly
Chinese Junipers (blue & green)
Common Boxwood
Common Lilac
Forsythia
Inkberry

Groundcovers

Ajuga
Bergenia
Candytuft
Epimedium
Ferns
Indian Strawberry
Junipers
Lily-of-the-Valley
Mosses
Pachysandra
Potentilla
Sedum
Sweet Woodruff
Vinca Minor

Perennial Vines

Bittersweet
Chocolate Vine
Clematis
Grape
Honeysuckle
Silver Lace Vine
Trumpet Creeper
Virginia Creeper

* Revised November 6, 2007