

Deer Resistant Plants

Trees:

Maples (*Acer sp.*)
 Oaks (*Quercus sp.*)
 Black Pine (*Pinus nigra*)
 Scots Pine (*Pinus sylvestris*)
 White Pine (*Pinus strobus*)
 Jap.Cedar (*Cryptomeria jap.*)
 Flowering Pear (*Pyrus sp.*)
 Sweetgum (*Liquidambar sty.*)
 White Spruce (*Picea glauca*)
 Colorado Spruce (*Picea pung.*)
 Norway Spruce (*Picea abies*)
 Magnolia (*Magnolia sp.*)
 Fraser Fir (*Abies fraseri*)
 Douglas Fir (*Pseudotsuga*)
 Flowering Dogwood (*Cornus florida*)
 Kousa Dogwood (*Cornus kousa*)
 Shadblow (*Amelanchier sp.*)
 Umbrella Pine (*Sciadopytis*)
 Birch (*Betula pendula*)

Shrubs:

Mugho Pine (*Pinus mugho*)
 Spireas (*Spirea sp.*)
 Lilac (*Syringa vulgaris*)
 Rose-of-Sharon (*Hibiscus syr.*)
 Boxwood (*Buxus semperviren*)
 Inkberry (*Ilex glabra*)
 Forsythia (*Forsythia sp.*)
 Andromeda (*Pieris japonica*)
 Butterfly Bush (*Buddleia sp.*)
 Leucothoe (*Leucothoe font.*)
 Yucca (*Yucca filementosa*)

Perennials & Annuals:

Wormwood (*Artemesia*)
 Butterfly Weed (*Asclepia*)
 Foxglove (*Digitalis*)
 Epimedium (*Epimedium*)
 Siberian Iris (*Iris siberica*)
 Maltese Cross (*Lychnis con.*)
 Peony (*Paeonia*)

Favorite Food of Deer

Yew (*Taxus sp.*)
 Juniper (*Juniperus sp.*)
 Blue Holly (*Ilex meservae*)
 Rhododendron - except PJM
 & Roseum
 Azaleas - except deciduous
 Arborvitae (*Thuja occidentalis*)
 Falsecypress (*Chamaecyparis*)
 Cedar (*Cedrus sp.*)
 Littleleaf Holly (*Ilex crenata*)
 Hemlock (*Tsuga canadensis*)
 Euonymus (*Euonymus fortune*)
 Burning Bush (*Euonymus al.*)
 Viburnum (*Viburnum carlesii*)
 Firethorn (*Pyracantha coccinea*)
 Tulips, Crocus

Deer in the Landscape

Deer can spell disaster for a landscape. They can devour almost everything in the garden, as well as foliage and bark from trees and shrubs. They have become one of Connecticut's most destructive landscape pests. The three major reasons cited for this trend are: 1) continued residential & industrial construction in wooded deer habitats, 2) reduced instinctive fear of humans, and 3) increased landscape planting with shrubs that deer like to eat. There are approximately 53,000 deer in Connecticut.

Why deer prefer some plants over others is because deer can sense which plants have greater nutritional value & will devour these first. When their preferred food is depleted, they then feed on plants of low nutritional value just to fill their stomachs. Another factor of deer preference is the presence of nitrogen fertilizer. Nitrogen enhances the nutritional value of plants so much that deer will feed heavily on those,

even though they would normally eat only out of desperation.



Methods of Deer Control:

1) **Barriers** - A 6' solid wall will deter deer even though they could jump over it; but they are less likely to bother a yard they can't see. "Deer-X Netting" comes in rolls 7'x100' to create a vertical or slanting fence.
 2) **Repellents** - Often a particular odor will repel deer. "Deer Away Big Game" spray & "Bobbex" are some. A homemade hot sauce spray of Tabasco sauce, Wilt-Pruf & water is also good, but must be re-applied after each rain.