

## DEER RESISTANT PLANTS



### Living with Deer

Damage to valuable landscape plants tends to increase along with the growing population of white-tailed deer in rural and suburban areas of Massachusetts. By choosing plants *less favored* by deer, you might be able reduce some of the impact of browsing, but **no plant will resist deer feeding under all conditions**. Many variables such as the animals' experience and health status, weather, and availability of more desirable foods will determine which plants deer choose to eat.

PLANTS LESS FAVORED BY DEER	
<b>SHRUBS, deciduous</b>	
Bayberry	<i>Myrica spp.</i>
Beautybush	<i>Kolkwitzia amabilis</i>
Bottlebrush Buckeye	<i>Aesculus parviflora</i>
Common Boxwood	<i>Buxus sempervirens</i>
Common Lilac	<i>Syringa vulgaris</i>
Corkscrew Willow	<i>Salix matsudana 'Tortuosa'</i>
Forsythia	<i>Forsythia spp.</i>
Mahonia	<i>Mahonia spp.</i>
Red Osier Dogwood	<i>Cornus sericea</i>
Redvein Enkianthus	<i>Enkianthus campanulatus</i>
Snowball Viburnum	<i>Viburnum tomentosum</i>
Witch Hazel	<i>Hamamelis spp.</i>
<b>TREES, deciduous</b>	
American Sycamore	<i>Platanus spp.</i>
Beech	<i>Fagus spp.</i>
Birch	<i>Betula spp.</i>
Catalpa	<i>Catalpa spp.</i>
Common Sassafras	<i>Sassafras albidum</i>
English Hawthorne	<i>Crataegus laevigata</i>
Flowering Dogwood	<i>Cornus florida</i>
Honey Locust	<i>Gleditsia triacanthos</i>
Hop Hornbeam	<i>Ostrya virginiana</i>
Japanese Flowering Cherry	<i>Prunus serrulata</i>
Kousa Dogwood	<i>Cornus kousa</i>
Sweetgum	<i>Liquidambar styraciflua</i>

### Protect New Trees + Shrubs

Protect newly planted woody plants with **sturdy, wire mesh barriers**. If deer pressure is heavy, leave barriers in place **until plants are well established** and able to tolerate some browsing. In late winter and early spring, if deer are hungry they will feed readily, with little discrimination, on young trees and shrubs.

TREES + SHRUBS, evergreen	
Chinese Juniper	<i>Juniperus chinensis</i>
Drooping Leucothoe	<i>Leucothoe fontanesiana</i>
False Cypress	<i>Chamaecyparis spp.</i>
Holly, American	<i>Ilex opaca</i>
Inkberry	<i>Ilex glabra</i>
Japanese Pieris	<i>Pieris japonica</i>
Mountain Laurel	<i>Kalmia latifolia</i>
Pine, Austrian	<i>Pinus nigra</i>
Pine, Mugo	<i>Pinus mugo</i>
Pine, Pitch	<i>Pinus rigida</i>
Pine, Red	<i>Pinus resinosa</i>
Pine, Scots	<i>Pinus sylvestris</i>
Spruce, Colorado Blue	<i>Picea pungens glauca</i>
Spruce, Norway	<i>Picea abies</i>
Spruce, White	<i>Picea glauca</i>
<b>VINES</b>	
Climbing Hydrangea	<i>Hydrangea anomala petiolaris</i>
Japanese Wisteria	<i>Wisteria floribunda</i>

### Herbaceous Plants to Try

**Bulbs:** autumn crocus, daffodil, Dutch iris, hyacinth, snowdrop, Siberian squill

**Annuals:** ageratum, larkspur, marigold, nasturtium, snapdragon, sweet alyssum

**Perennials:** bleeding heart, purple coneflower, daylily ('*Stella de Oro*'), coreopsis ('*Moonbeam*'), foxglove, lavender, lily of the valley, purple fountain grass, Russian sage



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