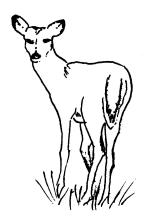
# Growing Tips 20

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

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

### **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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