

Deer Resistant Plants

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Unless you're lucky enough to have your entire property fenced you have probably come home to find deer munching happily on your favorite plants. It may even be a plant that's supposed to be deer resistant. It happens, apparently deer don't follow our plant labels. We have listed the plants that we find most resistant to deer damage in our area. Deer tend to stay away from plants that have smaller, silver foliage or are aromatic. In addition here are a few products that we use to keep the deer at bay.

MILORGANITE is our favorite all around fertilizer, use it on trees, shrubs, perennial gardens and lawns. Many customers notice it comes with the added benefit of repelling deer, they simply do not like the smell. LIQUID FENCE is a safe way to battle your neighborhood deer and rabbits. Available in either a liquid spray or a granular, it's easy to apply and effective. Make sure to reapply after we get rain.

PLANTSKYDD is recommended for those areas that experience very high pressure from browsing deer and elk. This long lasting spray is certified organic, safe to use on edibles, and rain repellent.

COMMON NAME	SCIENTIFIC NAME	HEIGHT/WIDTH	LIGHT	NOTES			
Trees							
Acer plat. 'Helena'	Helena Maple	45' x 40'	FULL/PART SUN	Fast growing, rounded crown; yellow/orange fall color			
Acer neg. 'Sensation'	Sensation Boxelder Maple	40' x 30'	FULL/PART SUN	Male seedless; doesn't attract boxelder beetles; outstanding red/orange fall color			
Aesculus	Buckeye	35' x 30'	FULL/PART SUN	Rounded crown, orange/red fall color			
Crataegus	Hawthorn	15-20' x 10-15'	FULL/PART SUN	White/pink spring flowers followed by red fruit			
Gleditsia	Honeylocust	30-40' x 30-35'	FULL/PART SUN	Fine, lacy texture; upright spreading crown			
Juniperus scopulorum	Rocky Mountain Juniper	10-20' x 3-10'	FULL/PART SUN	Found naturally on dry, rocky soils; upright or rounded; blue-green foliage			
Picea	Spruce		FULL/PART SUN	Many varieties available			
Pinus	Pine		FULL/PART SUN	Many varieties available			
Shrubs							
3111 (1853							
Berberis	Barberry	2-5' x 2-5'	FULL/PART SUN	Red fall color; many varieties			
Cercocarpus	Mahogany	4-12' x 4-12'	FULL SUN	Must have well-drained soil; leathery dark green leaves; very drought tolerant			
Chamaebatiaria	Fernbush	5-6' x 6-8'	FULL SUN	Must have well-drained soil; mid summer blooms great for native bees			
Forsythia	Forsythia	5-10' x 5-10'	FULL/PART SUN	Fast growing, tolerates range of soils			
Juniperus	Juniper	2-6' x 2-8'	FULL SUN	Many varieties; well drained soil			
Pinus mugo	Mugo Pine	2-20' x 2-15'	FULL/PART SUN	Tolerates alkaline, compacted soil			
Potentilla	Bush Cinquefoil	2-3' x 2-3'	FULL/PART SUN	Long blooming; variety of flower colors			
Rhus aromatica	Fragrant Sumac	2-6' x 6-8'	SUN/SHADE	Aromatic foliage; great fall color			

Rhus trilobata	Skunkbush Sumac	6-8' x 6-8'	FULL/PART SUN	Great fall color; red berris; drought/heat tolerant
Ribes aureum	Golden Currant	5-6' x 5-6'	FULL SUN	Yellow flowers; edible black berries; red fall color; tolerates drought, clay soil
Rosa rugosa, woodsii	Rugosa & Wood's Rose	3-6' x 3-6'	FULL/PART SUN	Very hardy, forms thickets; disease resistant; drought tolerant
Sambucus	Elderberry	6-10' x 6-10'	SUN/SHADE	Hardy, fast growing; adaptable to range of growing conditions
Symphoricarpus	Snowberry	3-5' x 3-5'	SUN/SHADE	Smaller, suckering shrub; white/pink berries; tolerates drought & heavy clay soil
Syringa	Lilac	3-12' x 3-12'	FULL/PART SUN	Many varieties; fragrant flowers
Viburnum 'Mohican'	Mohican Viburnum	10-12' x 10-12'	FULL/PART SUN	Hardy, adaptable; leathery dark green foliage; white flowers/ornamental berries
Flowers				
Achillea	Yarrow	1.5-3'	FULL/PART SUN	Many colors; drought tolerant; butterfly plant; fast growing
Agastache	Hyssop	2-3'	FULL/PART SUN	Blue flowers attract bees & butterlies; adaptable; long blooming
Allium	Ornamental Onion	1-2'	FULL/PART SUN	Purple/red/blue flowers; tough; may reseed
Aquilegia	Columbine	1-3'	SUN/SHADE	Many colors; hummingbirds; showy flowers
Artemisia	Sages, Silvermound	6"-6'	FULL SUN	Must have well-drained soil
Asclepias	Milkweed; Butterfly Weed	2-4'	FULL/PART SUN	Butterfly/pollinator plant
Astilbe	Astilbe	1-2'	PART SHADE/SHADE	Showy flowers in many colors; moist, rich soil
Coreopsis	Tickseed	1-2'	FULL/PART SUN	Long blooming; yellow flowers; tolerates poor, rocky & sandy soils
Dianthus	Dianthus	4"-1'	FULL/PART SUN	Tough, heat/drought tolerant; many have fragrant flowers
Dicentra	Bleeding Heart	1-3'	PART SHADE/SHADE	Large, shade loving old standy; cut foliage to ground mid summer if unattractive
Digitalis	Foxglove	2-3'	FULL/PART SUN	Bell shaped flowers attract butterflies and hummingbirds; add compost when planting
Echinops	Globe Thistle	2-3'	FULL SUN	Blue, globe flowers above green thistle foliage; drought/heat tolerant
Ericameria	Rabbitbrush	1-5'	FULL SUN	Well-drained soil; blue/green; important fall pollinator plant; heat/drought tolerant
Erigeron	Cutleaf Daisy	6"-2'	FULL/PART SUN	Must have well-drained soil; native daisy attracts butterflies
Eriogonum	Sulphur Buckwheat	4-6"	FULL SUN	Well-drained soil; yellow flowers fade to rust; foliage turns red in fall; evergreen
Eupatorium	Joe Pye Weed	3-5'	SUN/SHADE	Tolerates dry/wet soils; late blooming; butterfly/pollinator plant
Gaillardia	Blanket Flower	1'	FULL/PART SUN	Must have well-drained soil; deadhead to prolong blooming; short lived
Geum triflorum	Prairie Smoke	1'	FULL/PART SUN	Low maintenance; pink nodding flowers; airy seedheads; likes afternoon shade
Helleborus	Hellebore	1'	PART SHADE/SHADE	Evergreen, early blooming; variety of flower colors
Iberis	Candytuft	6"	FULL/PART SUN	Covered in white showy white flowers in spring
Iris	Iris	1-2'	FULL/PART SUN	Many varieties; some tolerate wet soil; bearded benefit from dividing
Lavendula	Lavender	1-2'	FULL SUN	Must have well-drained soil; drought/heat tolerant; only cut back flowers in spring

Liatris	Gay Feather	1-2'	FULL SUN	Butterflies/hummingbirds; purple flowers; drought tolerant; well drained soil
Nepeta	Catmint	1-3'	FULL/PART SUN	Hardy, adaptable, tough; reseeds; cut back mid season for second bloom
Papaver	Рорру	1-3'	FULL SUN	Showy flowers in many colors; thrives in most soils; foliage goes dormant in mid
Paeonia	Peony	2-3'	FULL/PART SUN	Showy flowers in many colors; best blooms in full sun; don't plant too deep
Penstemon	Beardstongue	1-2'	FULL/PART SUN	Many varieties; prefer hot, sunny, dry growing conditions; hummingbird favorite
Perovskia	Russian Sage	2-4'	FULL/PART SUN	Hardy; heat/drought tolerant; pollinator plant; silver foliage, purple flowers
Salvia	Salvia	1-2'	FULL/PART SUN	Many varieties; adaptable; cut back mid season for second bloom; pollinator plant
Solidago	Goldenrod	1-3'	FULL/PART SUN	Important late season pollinator plant; spreads
Veronica	Speedwell	4"-2'	FULL/PART SUN	Groundcover and upright varieties available; durable
Yucca	Yucca	1-2'	FULL SUN	Must have well-drained soil; intersting foliage and flowers
Groundcove	ers			
Ajuga	Bugleweed	4-6"x 12-15"	PART SHADE/SHADE	Glossy, colorful foliage with blue/purple flowers; adaptable
Antennaria	Pussytoes	4-6"	FULL/PART SUN	Super tough; drought/heat tolerant
Cerastium	Snow in Summer	4-6"	FULL/PART SUN	Silver foliage; white flowers; tough
Lamium	Dead Nettle	4-6"	PART SHADE/SHADE	Attractive foliage; quick growing
Oenothera	Evening Primrose	6-12"	FULL SUN	Drought tolerant; low maintenance
Thymus	Creeping Thyme	3-6"	FULL/PART SUN	Showy flowers; patios
Ornamental	Grasses			
Andropogon	Big Bluestem	3-5'	FULL/PART SUN	Warm season. Purple foliage varieties; great fall color. Open form.
Calamagrostis	Reed Grass	3-5'	FULL/PART SUN	Cool season. Korean tolerates shade. Vertical accent; easy to grow.
Deschampsia	Gold Veil; Tufted Hair	1-3'	FULL/PART SUN	Cool season. Golden flowers over deep green foliage. Great in masses.
Festuca	Fescue	1-2'	FULL/PART SUN	Cool season. Soft texture; many blue forms. Containers or front of garden bed.
Miscanthus	Maiden Grass	3-5'	FULL/PART SUN	Warm season. Arching foliage and attractive plumes; nice fall color.
Schizachyrium	Little Bluestem	2-3'	FULL/PART SUN	Warm season. Gorgeous fall color; prairie native.
Sporobolus	Prairie Dropseed	1-2'	FULL/PART SUN	Warm season. Prairie native, mix in with wildflowers. Fragrant flowers/fall color.