

Plants generally disliked by Deer

Few plants are completely deer resistant

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Deer may favor or dislike different plants regionally and seasonally. Browsing habits can also change due to the density of the deer population, alternate food availability and environmental factors.

While deer will eat anything when they are hungry, they tend to shy away from plants that have a strong aroma, are poisonous, have thorns, prickly or tough leathery foliage.

*Emerging flowers and stalks have been eaten but foliage is left alone.

Native Forbs

Red Baneberry	Actaea rubra	Twinleaf	Jeffersonia diphylla
White Baneberry	Actea pachypoda	Blazingstar	Liatris
Hyssop	Agastache foeniculum	Cardinal Flower*	Lobelia cardinalis*
Nodding Pink Onion	Allium cernuum	Wild Lupine	Lupinus perennis
Eastern Bluestar	Amsonia tabernaemontana	Virginia Bluebells	Mertensia virginica
Meadow Anemone	Anemone canadensis	Partridgeberry	Mitchella repens
Pasque Flower	Anemone patens	Bergamot	Monarda fistulosa
Columbine*	Aquilegia canadensis*	Wild Quinine	Parthenium integrifolium
Jack in the Pulpit	Arisaema triphyllum	Smooth Penstemon	Penstemon digitalis
Wild Ginger	Asarum canadense	Beardtounge Penstemon	Penstemon grandiflorus
Milkweed	Asclepias species	Mayapple	Podophyllum pelatum
Butterflyweed	Asclepias tuberosa	Jacobs Ladder	Polemonium reptans
Aster	Aster species	Black Eyed Susan	Rudbeckia hirta
Blue Wild Indigo	Baptisia australis	Purple Coneflower*	Echinacea purpurea*
Marsh Marigold	Caltha palustris	Brown Eyed Susan	Rudbeckia triloba
Harebell	Campanula rotundifolia	Bloodroot	Sanguinaria canadensis
Blue Cohosh	Caulophyllum thalictroides	Wild Senna	Senna hebecarpa
Sand Coreopsis	Coreopsis lanceolata	Blue-eyed grass	Sisyrinchium angustifolium
Stiff Coreopsis	Coreopsis palmata	Solomons Plume*	Smilacina racemosa*
Rattlesnake Master	Eryngium yuccifolium	Starry Solomons Plume	Smilacina stellata
Spotted Joe Pye Weed	Eupatorium maculatum	Zig-zag Goldenrod*	Solidago flexicaulis*
Boneset	Eupatorium perfoliatum	Showy Goldenrod	Solidago speciosa
Sweet Joe-Pye Weed	Eupatorium purpureum	Celandine Poppy	Stylophorum diphyllum
Queen of the Prairie	Filipendula rubra	Early Meadow Rue	Thalictrum dioicum
Wild Geranium	Geranium maculatum	Foamflower	Tiarella cordifolia
Herb Robert Geranium	Geranium robertianum	Spiderwort	Tradescantia ohiensis
Purple Avens	Geum rivale	Hoary Vervain	Verbena stricta
Prairie Smoke	Geum triflorum	Culvers Root	Veronicastrum virginicum
Blue Flag Iris	Iris versicolor	Goatsbeard*	Aruncus dioicus*
Crested Iris	Iris cristata	Ironweed	Vernonia fasciculata

Native Trees & Shrubs

Balsam Fir	<i>Abies balsamea</i>
Maple	<i>Acer</i> species
Serviceberry	<i>Amelanchier</i> species
Leadplant	<i>Amorpha canadensis</i>
Birch	<i>Betula</i> species
Musclewood	<i>Carpinus caroliniana</i>
New Jersey Tea	<i>Ceanothus americanus</i>
Hazelnut	<i>Corylus</i> species
Hawthorne*	<i>Crataegus</i> species*
Leatherwood	<i>Dirca palustris</i>
Witchhazel	<i>Hamamelis virginiana</i>
Winterberry	<i>Ilex verticillata</i> ♀ ♂
Juniper	<i>Juniperus</i> species
Tamarack	<i>Larix laricina</i>
Ironwood Tree	<i>Ostrya virginiana</i>
Spruce	<i>Picea</i> species
Pine	<i>Pinus</i> species
American Plum*	<i>Prunus americana</i> *
Pin Cherry	<i>Prunus pensylvanica</i>
Black Cherry	<i>Prunus serotina</i>
Chokecherry	<i>Prunus virginiana</i>
Canada Red Cherry	<i>Prunus virginiana</i>
Bur Oak	<i>Quercus macrocarpa</i>
Northern Red Oak	<i>Quercus rubra</i>
Fragrant Sumac	<i>Rhus aromatica</i>
Staghorn Sumac	<i>Rhus typhina</i>
Rose*	<i>Rosa</i> species*
Elderberry	<i>Sambucus</i> species
Snowberry	<i>Symphoricarpos albus</i>
Coarlberrry Shrub	<i>Symphoricarpos orbiculatas</i>
Viburnum	<i>Viburnum</i> species
Ninebark	<i>Physocarpus opulifolius</i>

Native Vines

American Bittersweet	<i>Celastrus scandens</i> ♀ ♂
Virgin's Bower Clematis	<i>Clematis virginiana</i>
Woodbine	<i>Parthenocissus inserta</i>
Virginia Creeper	<i>Parthenocissus quinquefolia</i>

Native Ferns

(most are resistant)

Maidenhair Fern	<i>Adiantum pedatum</i>
Lady Fern	<i>Athyrium filix-femina</i>
Hayscented Fern	<i>Dennstaedtia punctilobula</i>
Wood Fern	<i>Dryopteris marginalis</i>
Ostrich fern	<i>Matteuccia strupthiopteris</i>
Sensitive Fern	<i>Onoclea sensibilis</i>
Cinnamon Fern	<i>Osmunda cinnamomea</i>
Interrupted Fern	<i>Osmunda claytonia</i>
Royal Fern	<i>Osmunda regalis</i>
Christmas Fern	<i>Polystichum arcostichoides</i>

Native Grasses

Big Bluestem	<i>Andropogon gerardii</i>
Side Oats Grama	<i>Bouteloua curtipendula</i>
Pennsylvania Sedge	<i>Carex pensylvanica</i>
Sedges	<i>Carex</i> species
Junegrass	<i>Koeleria macrantha</i>
Switchgrass	<i>Panicum virgatum</i>
Little Bluestem	<i>Schizachyrium scoparium</i>
Indiangrass	<i>Sorghastrum nutans</i>
Prairie Dropseed	<i>Sporobolus heterolepis</i>
Tufted Hairgrass	<i>Deschampsia caespitosa</i>

Ornamentals

(selected because they play well with natives)

Allium	Allium
Astilbe*	Astilbe*
Bergenia / Pig Squeak*	Bergenia*
Brunnera	Brunnera
Bleeding heart	<i>Dicentra spectabilis</i>
Gas plant	<i>Dictamnus</i>
Coral Bells	<i>Heuchera</i>
Catmint	<i>Nepeta</i>
Dianthus	Dianthus
Hens & Chicks	<i>Sempervivum</i>
Russian Sage	<i>Pervoskia</i>
Lavender	<i>Lavandula</i>
Butterfly Bush	<i>Buddleia</i>
Feather Reed Grass	<i>Calamagrostis</i>
Japanese Forest Grass	<i>Hakonechloa macra</i>
Flame Grass	<i>Miscanthus sinensis</i>
Boxwood	<i>Buxus</i>

