

Plants generally disliked by Deer

Few plants are completely deer resistant

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

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

Native Trees & Shrubs

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|-------------------|-----------------------------------|
| 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

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|--------------------|--------------------------------|
| 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)

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|------------------------|-----------------------------|
| 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> |

