

## **Deer Resistant Native Plants**

\*Please note that, despite the title, there are no completely deer resistant/tolerant plants. A hungry deer will eat what is available. However, it is understood that deer food preferences change with deer population levels, the season and can vary region to region. It is also important to protect newly established plantings through the use of repellents and fencing. As curious animals, deer will test new plantings. A plant that can withstand deer in maturity may be vulnerable initially. The purpose of this list is to serve as a guideline or starting point to see which plants work for you.\*

Deer Resistant/Tolerant Native Herbaceous Plants										
Common Name	Latin Name	Height	Spread	Sunlight	Moisture and Soil Conditions	Color	Bloom			
Monkshood	Aconitum	2'-5'	1'-2'	Full sun to Partial shade	Rich, loam, clay soils. Low woods and	blue	June-Sept			
	uncinatum				damp slopes, along streams.					
Sweet Flag	Acorus	4'	1'-3'	Full sun	Tolerates acidic soil. Needs high	yellow	Late spring			
	americanus				moisture.					
Doll's-eyes	Actaea	1.5'-3'	2'-3'	Partial shade to full	Dry to moist	white	May-June			
	pachypoda			shade.						
Black Cohosh	Actaea racemosa	6'-8'	2'-4'	Partial shade to full	Dry to moist	white	June-July			
	(Cimicifuga			shade.						
	racemosa)									
Giant Purple	Agastache	2'-2.5'	1'-1.5'	Full sun to partial shade.	Rich woods, moist thickets.	bluish-purple	July-Sept			
Hyssop	scrophulariifolia									
Small Agrimony	Agrimonia parviflora	2.5'-5'	1.5'-2'	Full sun to partial shade.	Moist conditions and loamy, silty, gravelly, or sandy soil.	yellow	Mid Summer			
					Tolerates					
					temporary flooding.					
Eastern Blue-star	Amsonia	2'-3'	2'-3'	Full sun to partial	Prefers moist soil conditions	powdery blue	Apr-May			
	tabernaemontana			shade.						
Wild Columbine	Aquilegia	2'-3'	1'-1.5'	Full sun to full shade	Likes dry conditions	light pink/yellow to	Apr-May			
	canadensis					blood red/yellow				
Jack-in-the-pulpit	Arisaema	3.5'-5'	1'-1.5'	Part shade to full	Moist	green/purple	Apr-May			
	triphyllum			shade.						
Goat's-beard	Aruncus dioicus	4'-6'	2'-4'	Full sun to partial	Easily grown in average, medium to wet,	cream	Apr-May			
				shade.	well-drained soil.					
Wild ginger	Asarum canadense	Up to 1'	1'-1.5'	Part shade to full shade.	Easily grown in average, medium to wet,	purplish-brown	Apr-May			
					well-drained soil. Prefers constantly moist, acidic soils in					
					heavy shade.					
Swamp Milkweed	Asclepias	4'-5'	2'-3'	Full sun.	Easily grown in medium to wet soils such	white, pink, mauve	July-Aug			
	incarnata				as swamps and wet meadows.					
Butterfly-Weed	Asclepias tuberosa	1'-2.5'	1'-1.5'	Full to partial sun.	Easily grown in average, dry to medium, well-drained	orange	June-Aug			
					soils. Drought tolerant.					
					Does well in poor, dry soils.					
White Wood Aster	Aster divaricatus	1.5'-2'	1.5'-2.5'	Very shade tolerant.	Easily grown in average, medium, well- drained soil.	white	Aug-Sept			
	(Eurybia				Thrives in shade and					
	divaricata)				tolerates dry conditions.					
New England Aster	Aster novae- angliae	3'-6'	2'-3'	Full sun	Easily grown in average, medium, well- drained soil.	purple	Aug-Sept			
	(Symphyotrichum				Prefers moist, rich soils.					
	novae-angliae)									

Herbaceous Plants continued (2)											
Common Name	Latin Name	Height	Spread	Sunlight	Moisture and Soil Conditions	Color	Bloom				
Green-and-gold	Chrysogonum virginianum	.5'-1'	.75'-1.5'	Sun to shade.	Well-drained	yellow	May-Oct				
Tickseed	Coreopsis lanceolata	1'-2'	1'-1.5'	Full sun	Dry to medium moisture, well-drained soil. Tolerant of heat, humility, and drought.	yellow	May-July				
Rose Coreopsis	Coreopsis rosea	1'-2'	1.5'-2.5'	Full sun	Medium moisture, well-drained soil.	pink and yellow	June-Sept				
Dutchman's- Breeches	Dicentra cucullaria	.5'-1'	.5'-1'	Part shade to full shade.	Rich, moist, humusy soils. Requires good soil drainage.	white to pink	March				
Fringed Bleeding Heart	Dicentra eximia	1.5'-3'	1'-1.5'	Part Shade	Dry to moist	Rose pink	Apr-July				
Purple Coneflower	Echinacea purpurea	2'-5'	1.5'-2'	Full sun to partial shade.	Tolerant of heat, drought, humidity, and poor soil.	rose-purple	Summer				
Flowering spurge	Euphorbia corollata	.5'-3'		Full sun	Mesic to dry. Drought resistant. Tolerates poor soil.	white	Mid-late Summer				
Wood Geranium	Geranium maculatum	1.5'-3'	1'-1.5'	Full sun to part shade.	Prefers moist, humusy soils, but tolerates poor soils.	pale pink, deep pink, lilac	Apr-May				
Helen's Flower, Sneezeweed	Helenium autumnale	3'-5'	2'-3'	Full sun	Rich, moist soils. Intolerant of dry soils.	yellow	Aug-Oct				
Swamp Rose- mallow	Hibiscus moscheutos	2'-2.5'	1.5'-2'	Full to partial sun.	Drought tolerant.	pink to white	Jul-Sept				
Great St. John's- wort	Hypericum pyramidatum (H. ascyron)	5'	5'	Full sun. Shade intolerant.	Slightly acidic. Low drought tolerance.	yellow	Late Summer				
Blue flag Iris	Iris versicolor	2'-2.5'	2'-2.5'	Full sun to partial shade.	Tolerates clay. Fresh to moderately brackish water.	blue	May-June				
Twin-leaf	Jeffersonia diphylla	Up to 1'	.5'75'	Part shade. Tolerates full shade.	Dry to moist, humusy, well-drained, limestone soils	white	Apr				
Dense Blazing Star	Liatris spicata	2'-4'	.75'-1.5'	Full sun.	Somewhat tolerant of poor soils, but prefers moist, fertile well-drained soils.	red-purple	July-Aug				
Cardinal-flower	Lobelia cardinalis	2'-4'	1'-2'	Tolerates partial shade.	Easily grown in rich, humusy, medium to wet soils. Needs constant moisture.	blood red	July-Sept				
Great Blue Lobelia	Lobelia siphilitica	2'-3'	1'-1.5'	Full to partial sun. Shade tolerant.	Easily grown in rich, humusy, medium to wet soils. Needs constant moisture.	blue	July-Sept				
Meehan's Mint	Meehania cordata	3-6"	3-18"	Part shade to full shade.	Best grown in rich, humusy, medium moisture, well-drained soils. Tolerates full sun if kept uniformly moist.	violet	May-June				
Virginia Bluebells	Mertensia virginica	1.5'-2'	1'-1.5'	Full sun to part shade.	Average, medium well-drained soils. Prefers rich, moist.	blue	Apr-May				
Monkeyflower	Mimulus ringens	1'-3'	.75'-1'	Full to partial sun.	Moist to wet soil.	lilac purple	June-Sept				
Beebalm	Monarda didyma	1'-2'	1'-2'	Full to partial sun.	Best grown in dry to medium moisture, well-drained soils. Tolerates poor soils and some drought.	pink to white with purple	May				
Wild Bergamot	Monarda fistulosa	2'-4'	2'-3'	Full sun to part shade.	Well-drained.	lavender	July-Sept				
Beardtongue	Penstemon digitalis	3'-5'	1.5'-2'	Full sun	Grow in average, dry to medium moisture, well-drained soil. Avoid wet, poorly drained soils.	white	Apr-June				

Herbaceous Plants	continued (3)						
Common Name	Latin Name	Height	Spread	Sunlight	Moisture and Soil Conditions	Color	Bloom
Blue Wood Phlox	Phlox divaricata	.75'-1'	.75'-1'	Part shade to full shade.	Best grown in humusy, medium moisture, well-drained soil. Prefers rich, moist, organic soils.	rose/lavender or violet/blue	Apr-May
Creeping Phlox	Phlox stolonifera	.5'-1'	.75'- 1.75'	Full sun to part shade.	Humusy, medium moisture, well-drained soil in full sun to part shade. Prefers acidic, rich, organic soils with continuous, even moisture.	purple	July-Sept
Obedient Plant	Physostegia virginiana	3'-4'	2'-3'	Full sun	Easily grown in average, medium, well-drained soil.	pink/white	June-Sept
May-apple	Podophyllum peltatum	1'-1.5'	.75'-1'	Part shade to full shade.	Grow in average, medium moisture, well-drained soil. Prefers rich, moist, humusy soils.	white	Apr
Jacob's-ladder	Polemonium reptans	1'-1.5'	1'-1.5'	Full sun to part shade.	Best grown in moist, humusy, well- drained soil.	blue	Apr-June
Black-eyed Susan	Rudbeckia hirta	2'-3'	1'-2'	Full to partial sun.	Average, medium moisture, well-drained soils. Best in moist, organically rich soils. Tolerates heat, drought and a wide range of soils except poorly-drained wet ones.	yellow to orange/yellow	June-Sept
Bloodroot	Sanguinaria canadensis	.5'75'	.25'5'	Part shade to full shade.	Best grown in moist, humusy, well-drained soils.	white	Mar-Apr
Skullcap	Scutellaria incana	2'-3'	1.5'-2'	Full sun to part shade.	Easily grown in average, dry to medium, well-drained soil. Best on dryish, sandy or clay soils.	blue	July-Sept
Goldenrod	Solidago spp. (caesia, patula, rigida)	3'-5'	1.5'-2.5'	Full to partial sun.	Easily grown in average, medium, well- drained soil.	yellow	Aug-Sept
Celandine Poppy	Stylophorum diphyllum	1'-1.5'	.75'-1'	Part shade to full shade.	Best grown in medium to wet, humusy soils. Goes dormant in early summer if soils dry out.	yellow	Apr-June
New York Aster	Symphyotrichum novi-belgii	1'-1.5'	1'-1.5'	Full sun. Shade intolerant.	Prefers acidic, medium, well-drained soils. Tolerates fire.	pale purple	June-Sept
Aromatic Aster	Symphyotrichum oblongifolium	1'-3'	1'-3'	Full Sun.	Easily grown in average, dry to medium, well-drained soil. Does well in sandy or clay soils. Generally tolerates poor soils and drought.	blue, purple	Aug-Sept
Skunk-cabbage	Symplocarpus foetidus	1'-2'	1'-2'	Shade tolerant.	High moisture, acidic soil.	purple	June-Aug
Blue Vervain	Verbena hastata	2'-6'	1'-2.5'	Full sun	Average, medium to wet soils.	purplish-blue	July-Sept
Culver's-root	Veronicastrum virginicum	4'-7'	2'-4'	Full sun. Tolerates light shade.	Average, medium to wet, well-drained soil	white- pale blue	May-Aug

Deer Resistant/Tolerant Native Grasses									
Common Name	Latin Name	Height	Spread	Sunlight	Moisture and Soil Conditions	Color	Bloom		
Autumn Bentgrass	Agrostis	3'	2'	Full or part sun	Moderate shade tolerance, low	Green	Fall		
	perennans				drought tolerance				
Big Bluestem	Andropogon	4'-6'	2'-3'	Full sun	Dry to medium water.	purplish-red	Sept-Feb		
	gerardii								
Broomsedge	Andropogon	3'-5'	2'-3'	Full sun. Shade	Tolerant of fluctuating water levels.	yellow	Late Spring		
	virginicus			intolerant.	Slightly acidic soils.				
Side Oats grama	Bouteloua curtipendula	1.5'-	1.5'-2'	Full sun	Average, dry to medium moisture soils. Tolerates sandy soils to	yellow	Mid-Spring		
		2.5'			heavy				
					clay.				
Fringed Sedge	Carex crinita	1'-3'	1'-1.5'	Full to partial sun.	Prefers well-drained, moist soil.	green	Late spring		
Pennsylvania Sedge	Carex pensylvanica	.75'-1'	.5'75'	Partial sun. Shade tolerant.	Well-drained soil with average moisture. Will grow in infertile,	reddish-brown	Spring		
					slightly acidic soil, dry soil.				
Hairy Muhly	Muhlenbergis	3'	2'-3'	Full sun	Low drought tolerance	Red – white	Summer –		
	capillaris						Winter		
Tussock Sedge	Carex stricta	1'-3'	1'-2'	Full sun. Shade	Acidic soil.	reddish-brown	May-June		
				tolerant.					
Fox Sedge	Carex	1'-3'	.5'-2'	Full to partial sun.	Prefers fluctuating water levels.	green	May-July		
	vulpinoidea								
Canada Wildrye	Elymus	3'-6'	2'-3'	Shade tolerant	Moderate drought and salt tolerant	yellow	Early		
	canadensis						Summer		
Virginia Wildrye	Elmyus	3'-6'	2'-3'	Shade tolerant	Moderate drought tolerance	yellow	Summer to		
	virginicus						Fall		
Purple Lovergrass	Eragrostis	1'-3'	1.5'-3'	Full sun	High drought tolerance	Purpleish	Summer -		
	spectabilis						Fall		
Soft Rush	Juncus effusus	2'-4'	2'-4'	Full to partial sun.	Tolerates occasional dry conditions.	yellow-green	June-Aug		
Switchgrass	Panicum	3'-6'	2'-3'	Full sun to part	Tolerates wet/dry conditions.	yellow, pink tinged	July-Sept		
	virgatum			shade.					
Little Blustem	Schizachyrium scoparium	2'-4'	1.5'-2'	Full sun.	Easily grown in average, dry to	purplish bronze	Aug-Feb		
					medium, well-drained soil. Tolerates wide range of soil conditions.				
Indiangrass	Sorghastrum nutans	3'-5'	1'-2'	Full sun.	Average, dry to medium, well- drained soils. Tolerant of a wide range	light brown with	Sept-Feb		
					of soils including heavy clays. Does well in poor, dry, infertile soils.	yellow stamens			
					Tends to open up and/or flop in				
					moist, rich soils				

Deer Resistant/Tolerant Native Ferns									
Hay Scented Fern	Dennstaedtia 1.5'-2' 2		2'-3'	'-3' Shade to partial sun.	Moist, rich, humusy, acidic, medium	inconspicuous/none	N/A		
	punctilobula				moisture loams.				
Wood Fern	Dryopteris	1.5'-2'	1.5'-2'	Partial sun. Shade	Moist to dry woods. Acidic, well-	n/a	N/A		
	marginalis			tolerant.	drained soil.				
Sensitive Fern	Onoclea	3'-4'	3'-4'	Full to partial sun.	Organically rich, medium moisture,	n/a	N/A		
	sensibilis			Shade tolerant.	well-drained soil. Needs moisture.				
Cinnamon Fern	Osmunda	2'-3'	2'-3'	Part shade to full shade.	Easily grown in medium to wet soils. Prefers	orange	Spring		
	cinnamomea				moist, rich, humusy, acidic				
					soils, but adapts to lesser conditions.				
Hayscented Fern	Osmunda regalis	2'-3'	2'-3'	Full to partial sun. Shade	Easily grown in medium to wet soils. Prefers	n/a	N/A		
				tolerant.	moist, rich, humusy, acidic				
					soils, but adapts to lesser conditions.				
New York fern	Thelypteris	1.5'-2'	1'-2'	Partial sun. Shade	Moist, slightly acidic soil.	yellow-green	June-Aug		
	noveboracensis			tolerant.					

				Deer Resistant/Tolerant Native Shrubs							
Common Name	Latin Name	Height	Spread	Sunlight	Moisture and Soil Conditions	Color	Bloom				
Shadblow or	Amelanchier	6'-20'	10'	Partial sun. Shade	Dry to moist	white	Very Early				
Serviceberry	arborea/laevis			tolerant.			Spring				
Pawpaw	Asimina triloba	15'- 20'	15'-20'	Full sun	Moist, fertile, slightly acidic soils.	purple	Early May				
Carolina allspice	Calycanthus floridus	4'-7'	4'-7'	Full sun. Tolerant of partial shade.	Moist, rich soils. pH adaptable.	dark brown-maroon	May-July				
Summersweet, Sweet Pepperbush	Clethra alnifolia	5'-8'	4'-6'	Full sun to partial shade. Shade tolerant.	Prefers moist, acidic soil with organic matter.	white	July-Aug				
Red-osier Dogwood	Cornus sericea	6'-8'	6'-8'	Full to partial sun. Shade tolerant.	Drought tolerant.	white	Late May- Early June				
Hazelnut	Corylus americana	8'-15'	8'-15'	Partial sun to shade.	Dry woodlands.	yellowish brown	Early Spring				
Leatherwood	Dirca palustris	3'-6'	3'-6'	Part shade to full shade.	Organically rich, consistently moist, slightly acidic soils. Avoid dry soils.	pale yellow	Early Spring				
Witch-hazel	Hamamelis virginiana	20'-30'	20'-25'	Full sun or partial shade	Dry to moist soils	yellow	Nov-Dec				
Shrubby St. John's-wort	Hypericum prolificum	1'-4'	1'-4'	Full sun.	Dry soils. pH adaptable.	yellow	Summer				
Inkberry	llex glabra	4'-6'	4'-6'	Full to partial sun. Shade tolerant.	Tolerates wet areas.	white	June				
Winterberry Holly	llex verticillata	3'-5'	3'-5'	Full sun to partial shade.	Seasonally flooded areas.	greenish white	Late Spring				
Fetterbush	Leucothoe racemosa	4'-6'	4'-6'	Partial shade.	Moist, cool, acidic soils.	white	May-June				
Spicebush	Lindera benzoin	10'-15'	6'-10'	Shade	Moist, rich soils. Tolerates acidic soils.	yellow	Early May				
Bayberry	Myrica pensylvanica	6'-8'	5'-12'	Full to partial sun.	Does well in poor, sandy soil. Drought tolerant.	yellow-green	Early Spring				
Red Chokeberry	Photinia pyrifolia (Aronia arbutifolia)	6'-8'	3'-5'	Partial sun. Shade intolerant.	Low drought tolerance.	white	Mid-Spring				
Black Chokeberry	(Aronia melanocarpa)	6'-10'	3'-6'	Full sun to part shade.	Medium moisture, well-drained soils. Wide range of soil tolerance including boggy soils.	white to light pink	Mid-Spring				
Shrubby Cinquefoil	Potentilla fruticosa	2'-4'	3'-5'	Full sun to part shade.	Moderately fertile, medium moisture, well-drained soils. Tolerates poor soils.	yellow	June-Sept				
Allegheny Blackberry	Rubus allegheniensis	4'-6'	3'-4'	Full to partial sun. Shade tolerant.	Slightly acidic soils. Drought tolerant.  Medium moisture use.	white	Mid Spring				
Elderberry	Sambucus canadensis	5'-12'	6'-14'	Full sun to partial shade.	Drought tolerant.	white	July				
Steeplebush,	Spiraea	3'-6'	1	Full sun to part	Great for streambanks, preferring	pink	Summer				
hardhack	tomentosa			shade.	moist to wet soils.						
Maple leafed Viburnum	Viburnum acerfolium	6'-12'	8'12'	Full sun to light shade	Moist well drained soils	white	Late spring				
Arrowwood	Viburnum	5'-9'	5'-9'	Full sun to partial	Drought tolerant.	white	May-June				
viburnum	dentatum	1		shade.			,				
Nannyberry	Viburnum lentago	15'-18'	6'-10'	Sun or partial shade.	Adapts to wide range.	white	Mid-Late May				
Blackhaw viburnum	Viburnum prunifolium	12'-15'	8'-12'	Sun or shade.	Adapts to wide range.	white	Spring				

				Deer Resistant/Tolerar	nt Native Trees		
Red Maple	Acer rubrum	40'-60'	40'-50'	Part shade	Tolerant of most soils, prefers	red	Late Mar-
					slightly acid, moist		Early May
Silver Maple	Acer saccharinum	50'-70'	40'-50'	Full to partial sun. Tolerates some shade.	Poor soils, wet conditions.	greenish or yellowish red	Apr-May
Sugar Maple	Acer saccharum	60'-70'	40'-50'	Shade tolerant	Moist, well drained soils.	yellow green	Apr-May
Sweet Birch or	Betula lenta	40'-55'+	40'-60'	Shade intolerant.	Deep, rich, moist, slightly acid soils,	yellow	Late Spring
Black Birch					but found on rockier, drier sites.		
River Birch	Betula nigra	40'-70'	40'-60'	Full sun.	Moist soils	brown	Mid-Spring
American	Carpinus caroliniana	30'-65'	15'-25'	Shade tolerant.	Moist. Adapts to wet or dry soil.	orange	Mid-Spring
Hornbeam or Musclewood							
Eastern Redbud	Cercis canadensis	20'-25'	25'-35'	Partial sun. Shade tolerant.	Nitrogen fixer.	rosy pink	Early Spring
Atlantic white- cedar	Chamaecyparis thyoides	20'-50'	10'-20'	Partial sun. Shade tolerant.	Prefers deep, moist, sandy soil. Found in areas with fluctuating water tables.	green	Spring
Flowering Dogwood	Cornus florida	15'-20'	10'-15'	Full sun to partial shade.	Prefers cool, moist, acidic soil that contains organic matter.	reddish pink	Apr-May
American Beech	Fagus grandifolia	50'-70'	50'-70'	Full sun or shade	Moist, well-drained	yellow	April-early May
White Ash	Fraxinus americana	70'-140'	30'-50'	All sunlight conditions.	Moist, well-drained soils.	green, purple, black	Mid-Apr- Late Apr
Red Ash, Green Ash	Fraxinus pennsylvanica	70'-140'	30'-50'	Full sun.	Moist to wet fertile soils.	green	Mid-Late Apr
Honeylocust	Gleditsia triacanthos	30'-70'	30'-70'	Full sun.	Grows best in rich moist bottomlands with neutral pH, but adaptable. Tolerant of pollution.	greenish yellow	May-June
American Holly	llex opaca	40'-50'	18'-40'	Full to partial sun. Shade tolerant.	Moist, acidic, well-drained soil.	white	June
Eastern Red-Cedar	Juniperus virginiana	40'-50'	8'-15'	Full sun	Tolerant of most conditions. pH adaptable.	male yellow, female green	Late Winter
Tamarack, Eastern Larch	Larix laricina	50'-80'	20'-30'	Full sun. Shade intolerant.	Moist, well-drained, acidic soil is best, but tolerant of wet soils.	red	Mid-Spring
Sweet Gum	Liquidambar styraciflua	60'-75'	40'-50'	Best in full sun, tolerates partial shade.	Deep, moist, acid soils, bottomlands	yellowish-green	May
Tuliptree	Liriodendron tulipifera	120'	40'-60'	Full sun to partial shade.	Well drained soils.	greenish yellow	Late May- Mid-June
Sweetbay Magnolia	Magnolia virginiana	10'-20'	10'-20'	Tolerates shade.	Likes wet, acid soils. Tolerates drought.	white	Mid-June; sporadically during summer
Black-gum, Tupelo	Nyssa sylvatica	30'-50'	20'-30'	Full sun or semi- shade.	Moist, well-drained, acid soils.	green	Late Spring
Spruces	Picea sp.	40'-60'	25'-30'	Full sun.	Well-drained, sandy, acidic soils.	pink	Mid-Spring
Pitch Pine	Pinus rigida	40'-60'	30'-50'	Full sun.	Light, sandy, well-drained, acidic soil preferred. Salt tolerant.	yellow-green	Spring
Willow	Salix nigra	50'-100'	25'-40'	Full sun. Shade intolerant.	Strongly acidic to slightly alkaline soil.	green	early summer
Bald Cypress	Taxodium distichum	50'-75'	20'-30'	Full sun.	Thrives in wet, damp, acidic soils. Drought tolerant.	green	Mar-Apr
Basswood	Tilia americana	40'-60'	20'-30'	Partial sun. Shade tolerant.	Prefers moist, fertile, deep soils.	light yellow	Late June- Early July
Eastern Hemlock	Tsuga canadensis	40'-70'	25'-35'	Partial shade to full shade.	Easily grown in average, medium, well- drained soil. Prefers cool, moist, humid conditions. Intolerant of drought	yellow	Mid-Spring
Nannyberry	Viburnum lentago	15'-18'	6'-10'	Sun or partial shade.	Adapts to wide range.	white	Mid-Late May