

Deer Resistant Plants

If a deer is hungry or young (fawn), it will eat ANYTHING! There is no such thing as a “deer proof” plant. The best you can do is landscape with things they sometimes leave alone, often native, prickly, rough textured, or poisonous plants. There are no guarantees. If not on this list, assume deer will eat it.

TREES

Bald cypress, *bottlebrush, cassia, *cedar (red), chaste tree, Chickasaw plum, Dahoon holly, dogwood, elm (winged), fringe tree (native), Hong Kong orchid tree, jacaranda, *magnolia, oak (laurel), oak (live), *palms (all), *pine trees (all), redbud, river birch, spicey jatropa, tabebuia, yaupon holly, loquat

SHRUBS

*Angel trumpet & datura, anise, Arabian jasmine, azalea (formosa only), *bamboo, banana shrub, beauty berry, *bird of paradise (white & orange), bottlebrush (dwarf), brush cherry, camelia, cape honeysuckle, crape jasmine, *cycads (all), *croton, *eleagnus (silverthorn), fire bush, *gardenia, guava (pineapple & strawberry), *juniper, king’s mantle (thumbergia), *ligustrum, loropetalum, mahonia, *nandina (heavenly bamboo), New Zealand tea tree, night blooming jasmine, *oleander, orange jessamine, *philodendron, *plumbago, *podocarpus, powderpuff, sage, Schillings holly (yaupon), *stromantha (trio star) *Simpson’s stopper, *succulents (all) swamp mallow, *tea olive, *thryallis, tibouchina, *viburnum, *wax myrtle

GROUND COVERS & VINES

*Allamanda, Asian jasmine, Aztec grass, *asparagus fern, bleeding heart vine, blue sky vine (thumbergia), *bromeliads, crossvine, confederate jasmine, creeping fig (ficus), *fountain grass, *holly fern, *mondo grass, *muhly grass, *oyster plant, *pampas grass, passion flower, pyracantha, Rangoon creeper, *society garlic

ANNUALS & PERENNIALS

*African iris, *agave, agapanthus, ageratum, angelonia, beach sunflower, blue daze, *bush daisy, buttercup, *canna lily, cast iron plant, clerodendron (all), coreopsis, cranium lily, crown of thorns, dusty miller, *elephant ear, firecracker bush, *flax lily, *ginger (all), Hawaiian ti, heliconia, iris (all), jewel of opar, *lantana, liatris, lion tail, Marguerite daisy, *marigold, Mexican heather, *milkweed, mona lavender, *orange bulbine, periwinkle, porterweed, salvia (all), yellow alder, verbena (vinca)

(*) Marked are the most deer resistant. The other plants suffer occasional damage and might need some protection with either a barrier or deterrent spray.

Also, protect young, slender trees with a physical barrier. In the fall & winter, bucks will rub their antlers along the trunks to remove “velvet” & badly damage or destroy the tree.