

# DEER RESISTANT PLANTS

*Where Central  
Iowa Goes For  
Landscaping*



Plants can only be called deer resistant, not deer proof. Some plants are more resistant than others. This depends on the density of deer, drought conditions, and the availability of more palatable plants. Remember, if a deer is hungry enough it will eat anything!

## Groundcovers/Vines:

Boston Ivy  
Bugleweed  
Clematis  
Hydrangea, Climbing  
Pachysandra  
Sweet Woodruff  
Trumpet Vine  
Virginia Creeper

## Herbs:

Catmint  
Lavender  
Russian Sage  
Thyme

## Perennials:

Anemone  
Aster  
Astilbe  
Baby's Breath  
Bearded Tongue  
Bee Balm  
Bellflower  
Bergenia  
Black-Eyed Susan  
Blanket Flower  
Bleeding Heart  
Butterfly Weed  
Columbine  
Coneflower

## Perennials, cont.:

Coral Bells  
Coreopsis  
Cranesbill  
Deadnettle  
Delphinium  
Fern  
Foamflower  
Foxglove  
Ginger  
Goldenrod  
Hibiscus  
Iris  
Lady's Mantle  
Lamb's Ear  
Lenten Rose  
Lungwort  
Peony  
Phlox  
Red Hot Poker  
Salvia  
Soapwort  
Spiderwort  
Sedum  
Veronica  
Wormwood, Artemisia  
Yarrow  
Yucca

## Shrubs:

Barberry  
Boxwood  
Butterfly Bush  
Cotoneaster  
Forsythia  
Juniper  
Lilac  
Smokebush  
Sumac  
Viburnum  
Witchhazel

## Trees:

Alder  
Beech  
Birch  
Catalpa  
Dogwood  
Hemlock  
Hornbeam  
Larch  
Ginkgo  
Oak  
Redbud  
Spruce

*\*\* While these trees will deter deer from eating them, they might not deter deer from rubbing on them. Products, such as Liquid Fence, or non-chemical products, such as tree wraps, can be used to help keep deer from rubbing the trees.*

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Deer rely on their sense of smell to determine what is safe and desirable to eat. A wide variety of strong odors will confuse the deer. The animal will generally leave the area and go to a landscape where it can clearly identify what it is eating. Camouflage gardening is simply using plants that contain natural chemicals and have characteristics that deter deer to protect tastier plants around them.