



## DEER PROBLEM MANAGEMENT

Many people enjoy watching deer in the wild, and who wouldn't? They are graceful in movement, beautiful in form, and naturally photogenic. Not so enjoyable is the destruction to property that deer are capable of inflicting. Below are various methods that homeowners can employ to address and control this damage.

### DEER-RESISTANT PLANTS, SHRUBS & TREES



Deer prefer to eat some plants over others. By selecting and planting those species that they don't prefer around the edge of your property or garden, it's possible to reduce the amount of deer visits and plant damage.

Examples of plants rarely or never eaten are Ageratum, American Holly, Mint, Mimosa, Oregano, Daffodil, Rosemary, Hyssop, Red Elderberry & Larkspur.

Plants that are often eaten are American Arborvitae, Tulips, Strawberry, Hardy Geranium & Rhododendrons.



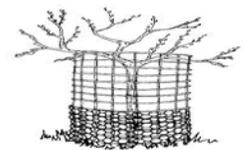
The following link will take you Rutgers list of Landscape Plants Rated by Deer Resistance: <https://njaes.rutgers.edu/deerresistance/>

### PHYSICAL EXCLUSION

Fencing the entire property is probably the best and most effective method to exclude deer from your property. Permanent fencing, such as chain-linked, is durable and reliable, but can be costly. Alternately, plastic mesh fencing can be used. Although less expensive, it may not be as attractive as a more permanent type fence. Ideally, the fencing should be at least 8 feet high (shorter fences may not be adequate) and installed low enough to prevent deer from crawling underneath.



If desired, instead of fencing the entire property perimeter, individual plants, trees or garden areas can be fenced. Wire cages (approximately 4 feet high) can be placed around individual trees and plants.



### REPELLENTS



There are two types of repellents that can be used to help protect plants from deer damage: Contact repellents, which are applied directly to plants, and use taste to repel deer and Area repellents, which are applied near plants, and use odors to repel deer. One drawback, though, is that they must be reapplied frequently (i.e. after exposure to rain), which can become costly. Commercial repellents can be purchased at garden centers. Be very careful to follow the directions on the label. \*Only those repellents that are labeled for use on edible plants should be used on edible plants\*. Homemade repellents, such as hot pepper sauce, deodorant soap, or worn human clothes hung near plants provided limited protection.



### DETERRENTS

Scare devices, which can be auditory or visual (or both), are used to frighten deer away. Examples of scare device are pie-pan tins (suspended by strings to rattle in the wind), motion activated noise makers, scarecrows, flashing lights, and "Scare-eye" balloons. Motion-activated sprinklers may also be considered. However, scare devices are most effective when used in combination. Because deer are highly adaptable, they may lose their fear of them after a week or so of exposure, when they have learned that there is no real danger. Therefore, scare devices, while somewhat effective in the short-term, are better used in conjunction with another method.



Another option and promising new technique is the use of guard dogs confined by an "invisible fence".

