

Minimizing Deer Damage in Landscapes and Gardens



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Minimizing Deer Damage

- Repellents
- Fencing
- Scare Devices
- **Deer Resistant Plants**

**Effectiveness depends
on population density**



Deer Population

- Increasing rapidly in urbanizing areas
- No predators
- Limited hunting
- Lots of edge habitat
- Nutrient rich plantings



Localized Dense Populations

- Home range ~1 sq. mile
- Local human behaviors (feeding, hunting bans) result in higher populations
- Contact [NC Wildlife Resources Commission](#) for advice on population management at community level



Dense Population

More deer =
Greater feeding pressure =
Strategies less effective =
Expect some damage



Strategies to Minimize Damage

At the home landscape level:

- Begins with understanding deer behavior
- GOAL = Minimize/reduce damage, NOT eliminate!



Tomato plant eaten by deer

Understanding Deer Behavior

- **Browsers**
 - Can eat wide range of plants, have preferred species
 - Ruminants
 - Reach up to 6'
- **Do not see color but have acute sense of smell**



Browse line on *Thuja*

Deer Behavior

- **Creatures of habit**
 - Previous damage often indicates future damage potential
 - Follow established trails
- **Prefer woodland edges**
 - Want cover (woods) close by when feeding

Landscape damage more common in wooded communities



Deer Behavior

No sharp upper teeth

- Jerk stems – ragged, torn edges
- May strip leaves from stems
- May pull up newly planted annuals, perennials



Deer Behavior

Picky Eaters

- Prefer to eat some plant species over others
- Favor irrigated and fertilized plants and crops!
- Love flower buds and tender new growth

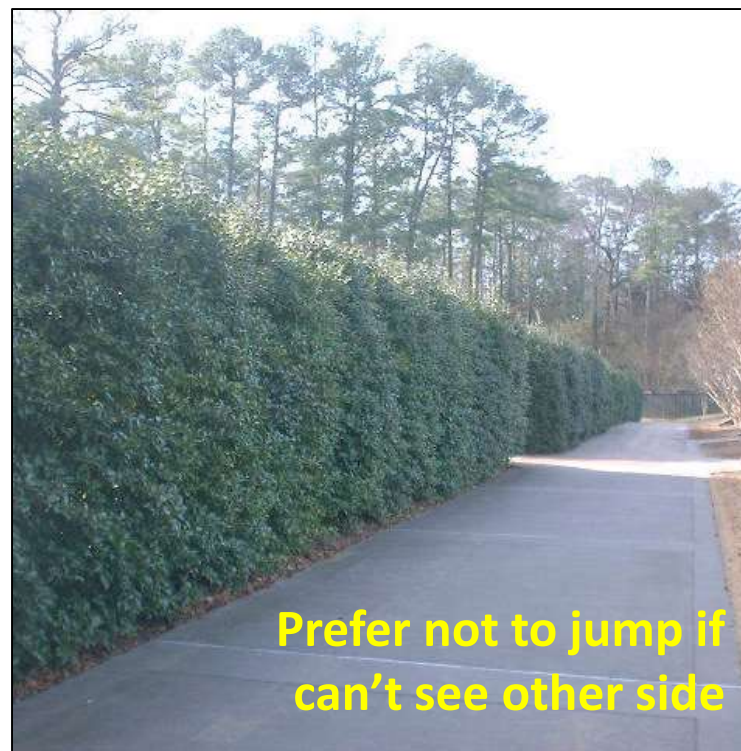


Deer will happily pick around plants to find their favorites!

Deer Behavior

Deer Can Jump!

- Especially when chased
- At least 9' high, 20' span
- Don't like to if they cannot see landing area – poor depth perception
- Prefer to go around, through or under rather than over



Prefer not to jump if
can't see other side

Deer Behavior

Use knowledge of behavior to minimize damage

- Fencing
- Repellents and Scare Devices
- Landscape Design
- Plant Selection



Deer Paradise:

Lush, irrigated, fertilized landscape full of their favorite flowers and shrubs

Relatively open but with cover nearby

Fencing

- **Most effective method but most expensive**
 - Only option for vegetables and fruits
- **Complete enclosure**
 - Will search for openings!

At least 8' tall if not electric



Wire Mesh Fencing

Deer Fencing

Non-electric

- 8' solid fence, to ground level most effective
- **Wire mesh**
 - Well anchored at bottom
- **Lower fences**
 - Plant shrubs on inside so deer can't see landing area
 - Line with wire mesh to prevent going under



Electric Fencing

- **Effective, less expensive**
- Primarily psychological barrier
- Single or double wire fence - temporary
 - Single, 30"
 - Double, 18" and 36"
 - Bait with peanut butter



Polytape/polywire easier to work with than high tensile wire, not as long-lasting

Electric Fencing

- **Offset and slanted designs** take advantage of poor depth perception
- **Design diagrams:**
 - [NCWRC](#)
 - [Controlling Deer Damage](#)
 - [Wildlife Damage Mgmt](#)



Deer Repellents

Reduce damage – do not eliminate it!

- Repel by taste and/or odor
- If taste - spray on plants, ground level up to 6'
- Odor repellents can be applied as band around plants, garden perimeter
- Few can be applied directly to edible plants



Deer Repellents

- Work best when **applied before deer** have established routine feeding patterns
 - Availability of alternate food sources best predictor of success!
- **Must reapply often** (every few weeks to months) beginning 2 weeks before bud break
- **Alternate products for best results – see links**



Table 1. Popular Deer Repellents.

ActiveIngredient	Mode of Action	Use on Edibles	Longevity	Trade Names
Salts/fatty acids of ammonia	Odor	Yes	Up to 4 weeks depending on the amount of rainfall	-Hinder -Deerbusters Deer and Rabbit Repellent
Garlic oil	Odor	Yes	Reapply after a heavy rain	-GD Deer and Insect Repellent -Garlic Barrier
Capsaicin Castor Oil	Taste	Yes	Up to 30 days depending on the amount of rainfall	-Miller's Hot Sauce -Scoot Deer
Predator Urines	Odor	Not Directly	± 30 days	-Coyote, wolf urine—many products available
Fish and/or beef by-products	Odor/taste	Not within 8 weeks of consumption	± 30 days during dormant season, every 10 to 14 days during the growing season	-Bobbex -Deerbusters Plant Growth Stimulant
Putrescent egg-based products	Odor	No	1 to 3 months or more	-Deer Away BGR -Rejex -It Deer Chaser
Thiram fungicide-based products	Taste/odor	No	1 to 3 months or more	-Bonide Chew-Nott -Deerbusters Deer Repellent and Turf Fungicide -Shotgun Deer & Rabbit Repellent
Blood-based products	Taste/odor	No	1-3 months or more	-Plantskydd -Repellex
Denatonium benzoate or bitrex	Taste	No	1-3 months or more	-Tree Guard -Ropel, Repel
Egg, garlic, fish oil, hot pepper, bitrex or some combination	Taste/odor	No No No No No No Yes Yes	1-3 months or more	-Deerbusters Deer I -Deer Stopper II -Deer Off -Bobbex -Liquid Fence -MGD Deer Repellent -Not Tonight Deer -Deer Blocker

[Using Commercial Deer Repellents . . .](#)
Maryland Extension

An Overview and Cost Analysis of Deer Repellents . . . Alabama Extension

Table 7. Cost Analysis of Common Commercial Deer Repellents

Repellent Name	Cost/100 sq. ft. area	Cost/100 sq. ft. area/year
Bobbex	\$3.27/ 100 sq. ft.	\$19.62/ 100 sq. ft.
Buck Off	\$1.09/ 100 sq. ft.	\$13.08/ 100 sq. ft.
Deer Off Squirrel, Rabbit, & Deer Repellent	\$0.91/ 100 sq. ft.	\$5.46/ 100 sq. ft.
Deer Out	\$0.25/ 100 sq. ft.	\$1.00/ 100 sq. ft.
Deer Pharm	\$0.09/ 100 sq. ft.	\$2.16/ 100 sq. ft. **
Deer Scram Deer & Rabbit Repellent	\$1.18/ 100 sq. ft.	\$14.16/ 100 sq. ft.
Deer Stopper Plotsaver Deer Barrier System Kit	\$1.00/ 100 sq. ft.	\$4.00 / 100 sq. ft.
Deer Stopper Repellent	\$0.31/ 100 sq. ft.	\$3.72/ 100 sq. ft.
Deerbusters Brand Deer Repellent	\$0.55/ 100 sq. ft.	\$2.20/ 100 sq. ft.
Hinder	\$0.86/ 100 sq. ft.	\$10.32/ 100 sq. ft.
Liquid Fence Deer & Rabbit Repellent	\$0.39/ 100 sq. ft.	\$5.07/ 100 sq. ft.
Miller Hot Sauce	\$19.93/ 100 sq. ft.	\$518.18/ 100 sq. ft.
No Deer Zone*	\$5.99/ 100 sq. ft.	\$23.96/ 100 sq. ft.
Plant Pro-Tec Repellents	\$17.55/ 100 sq. ft.	\$35.10/ 100 sq. ft.
Plantskydd	\$0.35/ 100 sq. ft.	\$1.40/ 100 sq. ft.
Shake-Away Deer Repellent Granules	\$2.49/ linear ft.	\$59.76/ linear ft.
Spotrete F	\$0.09/ 100 sq. ft.	\$1.07/ 100 sq. ft.
Tree Guard*	\$4.80/ 100 sq. ft.	\$14.40/ 100 sq. ft.

*Indicates ready-to-use products

**Calculated for reapplication every 2 weeks

Based on 2010 Pricing

Non-Commercial Repellents

- Bars of soap
- Bags of hair
 - Have some efficacy but must be placed every 3'; replace every 3-4 weeks
- **Duke Gardens Recipe:** 1 egg mixed in 1 gallon water



Scare Devices

- Motion activated light/sound/water devices
 - On overnight
- Lay chicken wire on the ground??
- Others???



Example: ScareCrow Deer Sprinkler

Zoning the Landscape

Divide landscape into zones based on management intensity

High Management Zone

- Typically area closest to home
- Grow plants deer most likely to damage
- Enclose with fencing or protect with frequent applications of repellents/scare devices



Deer Favorites

- Fruit trees and berries
- Vegetables
- Roses (flowers)
- Daylilies
- Azaleas
- Hydrangea
- Clematis
- Most annuals



Many more listed in [online fact sheet](#)

Zoning the Landscape

Low Management Zone

- Little actively done to reduce feeding
- Plant only deer resistant species
- Plant diverse range of species
- Essential next to woods



Deer Resistant Plants

- **Deer Resistant ≠ Deer Proof!**
- Deer resistant plants are those deer prefer not to eat
 - May nibble but usually will not demolish
- Feeding preferences vary from season to season and regionally
- **Will eat most anything rather than starve!**



Fawns more likely to taste a wide range of plants than adults

Deer Resistant Plants

Factors that increase feeding pressure

- High population density
- Season
 - Greatest pressure winter/early spring
 - New growth in spring prone to damage
- Weather
- Food availability elsewhere within range



Deer Resistant Plants

- Plant a diverse range of species – flowers, shrubs, trees
- **Include natives and flowering perennials to support other wildlife**
 - Songbirds
 - Pollinators
 - Beneficial insects



Diversity is the key to a healthy landscape!

Deer Resistant Plants

- **Fall is the best time to plant** trees, shrubs, perennials in the southeast!
- **New plantings are attractive to deer** - high nutrient status, lush new growth
- **Provide extra protection**
 - Cover or cage with chicken wire
 - Spray repellents
 - Temporary fence



Protect new plantings fall - spring

Deer Resistant Plants

Recommendations based upon:

- Personal observation
- Gardener/landscaper feedback
- Published lists – deer don't read these!

Focus:

- Evergreen shrubs
- Perennials
- Adapted to central NC

DEER RESISTANT PLANTS Recommended for Central and Southeastern NC Landscapes

Charlotte Glen, NC Cooperative Extension—Chatham County Center



Deer can wreak havoc on a landscape in a matter of just a few nights. There are many options to reduce the risk of deer damage in landscapes, such as applying repellents on a regular basis and restricting access through the use of fencing. One of the easiest ways to reduce deer damage in your yard is

to landscape with plants deer prefer not to eat. This fact sheet is intended to serve as a guide for choosing landscape plants resistant to deer feeding in North Carolina. Since a starving deer will eat anything to stay alive, no plant is guaranteed!

Deer Feeding Preferences

The plants deer prefer to eat vary from region to region and can even change seasonally. In the lists on the following pages, deer feeding preferences are classified as follows:

Frequently Damaged

Plants that are deer favorites. These are the first plants deer will seek to feed upon.

Occasionally Damaged

These are the plants deer will turn to once their favorites are depleted.

Seldom Damaged

Plants that deer will rarely eat unless there are no other options. Plants that are in **bold print** are extremely resistant to deer feeding.

Using a combination of a variety of methods to deter deer will give the most dependable results. To find out more about additional strategies to minimize deer damage in your landscape, visit the online publications listed in the **Learn More** section at the end of this fact sheet.

Tips on Deer and Plants

- No plant is deer proof! When hungry, deer will eat anything to survive. During stressful times such as drought, plants that are usually avoided may be damaged.
- Deer will eat almost anything in spring, as tender new growth emerges from plants. Deer prefer vegetation that is soft to the touch and high in water content. They especially relish flower buds.
- Over fertilized and over watered plants are particularly lush and appealing to deer.
- Deer resistant does not mean deer proof! These are plants deer prefer not to eat. Common characteristics of plants that deer prefer not to eat include:
 - ⇒ Plants with thorny or prickly leaves or stems
 - ⇒ Plants with strong scents and pungent tastes, such as herbs
 - ⇒ Plants that are poisonous or produce thick, latex-like sap
 - ⇒ Plants with hairy leaves

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Deer Resistant Plants

Some Common Characteristics

- Thorny stems
- Prickly or hairy leaves
- Tough, fibrous leaves
- Bitter taste
- Strong aromatic scent, herbs
- Ornamental grasses



Panicum 'Northwind'

Deer rarely bother ornamental grasses

Ornamental Grasses

- As a group, ornamental grasses are **highly deer resistant**
- Low maintenance – cut back warm season growers in Jan/Feb
- Most need full sun
- Most are drought tolerant



Pink Muhly Grass, *Muhlenbergia capillaris*

Shade Trees

- Most likely to damage foliage/twigs when young
 - Protect with cages, repellents
- Deer cannot reach once lowest foliage is over 6' high
- Trees with upright branching grow out of range faster



Ginkgo trees have upright branching

Protect Trees

- Many young trees are favorites of deer
- Individual cages 6' tall
- Leave until foliage out of reach – lowest foliage above 6'



Rubbing

- Very damaging, especially to young trees
- Most common in fall-winter
- No way to repair damage – permanent, sometimes fatal



**Remember
to remove
as trees
grow!**



Small Trees

- More likely to be damaged – branches within deer feeding range
- **Crapemyrtle**
 - Mature, tree forms rarely damaged
 - New, shrub types sometimes damaged

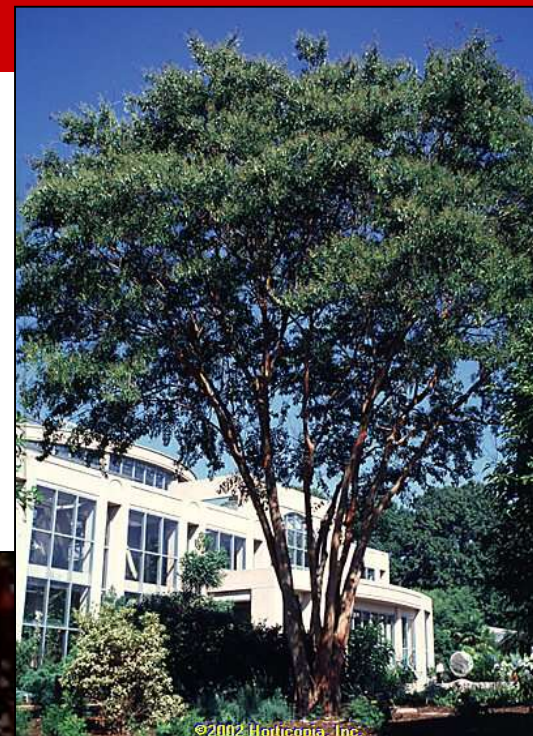
‘Cherry Dazzle’ Crapemyrtle



Choosing Crapemyrtle

Consider:

- Mature Size
 - Range: 5' – 35'!
- Growth Habit
- Bark
- Fall Color
- Mildew Resistance
- Flower Color



Learn more:

<https://hgic.clemson.edu/factsheet/crape-myrtle-varieties>

Vitex, Chaste Tree

- *Vitex agnus-castus*
- Large shrub or multi-stemmed tree
- Full sun, drought tolerant
- 10'-15' high and wide
- Aromatic blue flowers all summer
- Bees love it!



Vitex, Chaste Tree



Tree form specimens usually have multiple trunks

When grown as a shrub, can cut back each year like butterfly bush (back to 2' tall)

Red Buckeye

- *Aesculus pavia*
- Native, blooms mid-spring
- 10'-20'
- Attracts hummingbirds
- Understory tree, best in part shade and moist soil



Evergreen Shrubs

Frequently damaged in winter

Palms are very deer resistant.
Hardy shrub palms:

- **Dwarf palmetto**
 - *Sabal minor*
 - Native coastal SE
- **Needle palm**
 - *Rhapidophyllum hystrix*
- Both grow 4'-5' tall and wide; prefer part shade and moist soil



Needle Palm



Dwarf
Palmetto

Low Growing Evergreens

- **Dwarf Yaupon** —————→
 - Very small leaves
- **‘Carissa’ Holly**
 - Larger leaves, single spine on tip —————→
- Both grow 3’-4’ tall, 4’-5’ wide, prefer sun – part shade, and are drought tolerant



Inkberry

- *Ilex glabra*
- Native
- Cultivar:
'Shamrock' –
3'-4' tall and wide
- Sun – pt. shade
- Tolerates moist
soil
- Bees attracted to
blossoms



Evergreens for Screening

Florida Anise

Illicium floridanum

- 6' x 4'
- Red spring flowers
- **Anise Shrub** –
Illicium parviflorum is larger

Florida Leucothoe

Agarista populifolia

- 10'-12'



Upright Hollies

Ilex hybrids

- Excellent, long-lived hedges
- Full – part shade, well drained soil
- Most are hybrids between native and Asian species
- Prickly leaves, lots of red berries – many varieties:
 - ‘**Needlepoint**’, 15’ x 10’
 - ‘**Nellie Stevens**’, 20’ x 15’
 - **Red Hollies** – 15’-20’ x 10’
 - ‘Oakleaf’ - ‘Cardinal’
 - ‘Festive’ - ‘Robin’
- Deer may strip foliage on new growth in spring or nip tips



Cleyera

- *Ternstroemia gymnanthera*
- Sun to full shade
- 8'+ tall x 6'+ wide
- Well drained soil
- Drought tolerant
- Tolerates heavy pruning but more attractive when grown natural



'Goshiki'

False Holly, Holly Osmanthus

- *Osmanthus heterophyllus*
- 6'-10' depending on cultivar
- Very prickly leaves!
- Sun - part shade, well drained soil
- Flowers in fall – extremely fragrant



Southern Wax Myrtle

- *Morella cerifera*
- Full sun – lt. shade
- Moist to dry soil
- 10'-15' x 10'-15'
- Native eastern NC
- Semi-evergreen
- Drought tolerant
- Prone to ice and wind damage
- Winter berries for birds (female shrubs)



Japanese Plum Yew

- *Cephalotaxus harringtonia*
- Shade or sun
- Well drained soil
- **‘Duke Gardens’** is one of several low growing varieties
 - Grows 3’-4’ tall x 4’-5’ wide
- **‘Fastigiata’** is an upright, columnar variety, 10’ x 4’



Junipers

- Sun good drainage, drought tolerant
- Native - Red Cedar
 - *Juniperus virginiana*
- Many cultivars of Asian species
 - Groundcovers
 - Medium size shrubs
 - Upright shrubs



Flowering Shrubs: Loropetalum

- *Loropetalum chinense* var. *rubrum*
- Evergreen, purple leaved shrubs
- Fringy pink spring flowers
- Best in part shade, moist, acid soil
- Many varieties – range from 3' to 15' tall depending on cultivar
- Prettiest when not over-pruned!



Rosemary

- *Rosmarinus officinalis*
- Ornamental and culinary
- Blue flowers Feb-April
- Full sun, well drained soil
- Very drought tolerant
- Upright and weeping cultivars available
- **Upright types** grow 4'-6' tall and wide!
- **Weeping types** grow 2'-3' tall and 4'-6' wide



Gardenia

- Moderately deer resistant
 - expect damage under high feeding pressure
- Sun – part shade
- Well drained soil
- Most varieties 5' x 5' or larger
- Extremely fragrant
- Many varieties are available including:
 - **'Crown Jewel'** -
Grows 3' x 4'



Gardenia hips



'Frostproof'



'August Beauty', 'Veichii', 'Mystery'



'Daisy'

'Kleim's Hardy'

'Mt. Airy'

Fothergilla

- *Fothergilla major*
- 4'-5'x 4'-5'
- Sun to part shade
- Moist or well drained soil, acidic
- Honey scented spring blooms
- Dwarf fothergilla, *F. gardenii* similar but smaller



Fothergilla fall color



Sweet Pepperbush

- *Clethra alnifolia*
- Sun – part shade
- Well drained or moist soil
- Dwarf cultivars grow 3'-4'
 - Hummingbird
 - Sixteen Candles
- Blooms in June-July, attracts butterflies and pollinators
- Very fragrant





fall
color

'Ruby Spice' – pink flowers



Clethra 'Sixteen Candles'
Grows 3' - 4' tall and wide

Deer Resistant Perennials

- Flowers are deer favorites!
- Deer usually avoid plants with silver leaves, hairy leaves, and/or aromatic/herbal fragrances



Catmint, *Nepeta x faassenii*

This deer resistant, drought tolerant, summer flowering perennial has silver, aromatic leaves

Spring Flowering Bulbs

- Plant in November
- **Deer favorites:**
 - Tulips, crocus, grape hyacinths
 - Lilies, dahlias
- **Deer resistant:**
 - Daffodils, Summer snowflake, Spanish bluebells, Starflower



Daffodil 'St. Keverne'



Spanish Bluebell,
Hyacinthoides hispanica



Summer Snowflake
Leucojum aestivum



Starflower,
Ipheion uniflorum

Helleborus, Lenten Rose

- *Helleborus* hybrids
- White, pink or maroon nodding flowers in late winter
- 1' x 2'
- Evergreen foliage
- Shade
- Well drained soil



A few more for shade

- **Leopard Plant**
 - *Farfugium japonicum*
 - Clumps of evergreen, round spotted leaves topped with yellow daisy shape flowers in fall
- **Lungwort**
 - *Pulmonaria* cultivars
 - Somewhat evergreen, spotted leaves
 - Blue/pink flowers spring



Autumn
Fern

Hardy Ferns

- Most ferns are moderately to highly deer resistant
- Most prefer moist, shady areas

Evergreen ferns:

- **Holly Fern**
 - *Cyrtomium falcatum*
- **Autumn Fern**
 - *Dryopteris erythrosora*
- **Christmas Fern**
 - *Polystichum acrostichoides*

Holly
Fern

Eastern Columbine

- *Aquilegia canadensis*
- Native
- Blooms lt. March - May
- Sun or shade, well drained soil
- 12" – 24" tall in bloom
- Will naturalize in the garden by self seeding
- Establishes best when planted in fall



Green and Gold

- *Chrysogonum virginianum*
- Native
- Light to part shade, moist or well drained soil
- 1' x 2'
- Evergreen foliage
- Spring flowers
- *Var. australe* is stoloniferous = spreading, lower growing



Bluestar

- *Amsonia tabernaemontana*
- Native
- Tough, long lived clumping perennial
- Pale blue flowers in spring loved by bees
- 2' tall and wide
- Glossy green foliage, turns clear yellow in the fall
- Sun to part shade, wet to well drained soil

Fall
color



Arkansas Blue Star

- *Amsonia hubrichtii*
- 3' x 3'
- Sun
- Long lived
- Flowers in spring
- Yellow autumn color
- Attractive, ferny foliage all season
- Pollinators love it!



False Indigo

- *Baptisia* - hybrids and species
- Native eastern US
- Many cultivars – blue, purple, yellow, white flowers
- 3' - 4' x 2' - 3'
- Sun to light shade
- Bloom late April - May
- Long lived



Yucca, Adam's Needle

- *Yucca filamentosa*
- Native
- Evergreen
- Sun – part shade
- 2' x 2', summer flower spikes to 5'
- Broken roots regenerate new plants
- Very drought tolerant





**Yucca
'Color Guard'**



**Yucca
'Bright Edge'**



Artemisia 'Powis Castle'

- 2'-3' x 3'-4'
- Mounds of silver, finely cut foliage
- Sun
- Drought tolerant
- Evergreen but cut back in early spring to prevent legginess



Gaura

- *Gaura lindheimeri*
- Sun – light shade
- Drought tolerant!
- Many varieties – white or pink flowers
- 1' – 4' tall depending on cultivar
- Blooms from late spring through late summer – if trim back each time finishes blooming



Coreopsis, Tickseed

- Several species native to NC
- Sun lovers
- Threadleaf Coreopsis
 - *C. verticillata*
 - Long live
 - Summer blooming
 - Drought tolerant
 - ‘Zagreb’ – 2’ x 2’



Butterfly Weed

- *Asclepias tuberosa*
- Native
- Orange flowers summer – attract many pollinators
- Sun to part shade
- Well drained soil
- Very drought tolerant
- Late to emerge in spring





**Support Monarchs –
Plant Asclepias!**



Swamp Milkweed

- *Asclepias incarnata*
- Native
- 3' tall and wide
- Spring/early summer flowers
- Sun to part shade
- Moisture tolerant
- Monarchs! Attracts many pollinators



Miss Huff



Chapel Hill
Yellow

Lantana

- Sun
- Drought tolerant
- Many varieties – many are annuals
- Hardier/perennial:
 - ‘Miss Huff’, 4’-5’ x 4’-6’
 - ‘Chapel Hill Yellow’, 2’x 3’
- Excellent nectar source
- Bloom mid-summer till frost

Salvias

- Sun to light shade
- Drought tolerant
- **Texas Sage**
 - *Salvia greggii*
 - Blooms spring and fall, trim after blooming
 - 2' – 3' tall and wide
- **Mexican Bush Sage**
 - *Salvia leucantha*
 - Blooms fall
 - 4' - 5' tall and wide!



Mountain Mints

- *Pycnanthemum* species
- 12+ species native to NC
- Bloom mid-late summer
- Sun to light shade
- Moist soil
- 3' tall and wide
- The best pollinator plants!



Pycnanthemum loomisii



Pycnanthemum tenuifolium

Joe Pye Weed

- *Eutrochium dubium*
- Native
- Sun to light shade, wet to moist soil
- 4'-5' tall x 3'-4' wide
- Great butterfly nectar source!
- *E. fistulosum* is much taller, more common in piedmont



Ironweed



- *Vernonia noveboracensis*
- Purple flowers, late summer-fall
- 5' – 8' in flower
- Sun to light shade, wet to moist or well drained soil
- Attracts butterflies
- Great for natural areas and pond's edge – spreads!



American Beautyberry

- *Callicarpa americana*
- Native
- Tough deciduous shrub
- Sun to part shade
- Moist or dry soil
- Magenta berries late summer - attract songbirds
- 4'-5' tall and wide
- Cut back to 1'-2' in early spring





Sweat Bee



Rustic Sphinx Moth

Learn More:

Going Native Website

<http://www.ncsu.edu/goingnative>

Searchable database of NC natives allows you to select for deer resistant plants

NC STATE UNIVERSITY

GOING NATIVE
URBAN LANDSCAPING FOR WILDLIFE WITH NATIVE PLANTS

HOME | NATIVE PLANTS ATTRACTIVE TO WILDLIFE | WHERE TO GET NATIVE PLANTS | INVASIVE, EXOTIC PLANTS OF THE SOUTHEAST | MY PLANT LIST

Home >

WHY GO NATIVE

HOW TO GO NATIVE

CREATE YOUR OWN NATIVE LANDSCAPE

Going Native: Urban Landscaping for Wildlife with Native Plants

You can go native!...with native plants in your landscape.

- See why landscaping with native plants is better for wildlife and for the environment.
- Find out about the problems caused by invasive, exotic plants. Odds are you have invasive exotics in your

Extension Plants Database:

Learn more about recommended plants

<http://plants.ces.ncsu.edu/>


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Plants [Grow Plants](#) [Buy Plants](#)

Annuals	Poisonous Plants
Carnivorous Plants	Roses
Edible Plants	Shrubs
Ferns	Spring Bulbs
Groundcover	Summer Bulbs
Herbs	Trees
Native Plants	Vines
Ornamental Grass	Water Garden
Perennial Bulbs	Wildflowers
Perennials	All Plants



Extension Plants Database

Plant

Profiles:

- Height
- Hardiness
- Soil
- Exposure
- Description
- Images
- More!

Plants > Native Plants > *Hydrangea quercifolia*

Hydrangea quercifolia

This plant has poison characteristics. See below.

Common Name(s):

Oakleaf hydrangea

Cultivar(s):

Snow Queen , Snowflake , Harmony , Pee Wee, Sykes Dwarf, Alice, Little Honey (golden foliage), Munchkin (semi-dwarf), Ruby Slippers (semi-dwarf)

Categories:

[Native Plants](#), [Poisonous Plants](#), [Shrubs](#)

Comment:

Bold leathery leaves; spread of 8 ft.; seeds eaten by birds; mulch to keep root system cool; exfoliating bark on mature plants; wine, orange, and mahogany fall foliage; coarse texture; drought tolerant; native to southeastern US; rapid growth rate

Description:

Deciduous shrubs; leaves opposite, simple, stalked, toothed and sometimes lobed; flowers in terminal, round or umbrella-shaped clusters; white, pink, or blue, 4-5-parted, the sterile flowers (around the margin or the entire cluster) are much enlarged.

Height:

4-8 ft.

Foliage:

Opposite, simple, bold leathery leaves; 3-8 in. long; wine, orange, mahogany fall color

Flower:

4-12 in. erect panicles of creamy white flowers in summer; fades to pink, then tan; fragrant; good for drying

Zones:

5 to 9

Habit:

Deciduous

Site:

Sun to partial shade; prefers moist, well-drained soil but tolerates damp soil

Texture:

Coarse

Form:

Upright, irregular, rounded, multi-stemmed shrub with limited branching; stoloniferous; forms colonies

Exposure:

Sun to partial shade; moist, well drained soil

Fruit:



H. quercifolia 'Snowflake'

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H. quercifolia 'Snow Queen'

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QUESTIONS?

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<http://go.ncsu.edu/deer>

