

# Deer Resistant Native Plants for Mid-Michigan

Wild Ones Red Cedar Chapter [wildoneslansing.org](http://wildoneslansing.org)

Please note:

1. Hungry deer will eat almost anything. There are no guarantees.
2. Plants fresh from the nursery are especially attractive because they have high quality nutrition, and deer sense this.
3. New spring foliage is attractive to deer because they are hungry and because all plants are more palatable when young and tender.
4. If you have a serious deer problem, it is best to cage new plantings with fencing. Once plants are established, many can tolerate some deer browse.
5. General rules-of-thumb: deer dislike foliage that is aromatic (e.g. members of the mint, onion or sage families), fuzzy or hairy, and all **ferns, grasses, sedges**. They tend to really like legumes (members of the bean/pea family--Fabaceae).

## Herbaceous Plants

Baneberry	<i>Actea pachypoda, A. rubra</i>
Nodding wild onion	<i>Allium cernuum</i>
Columbine	<i>Aquilegia canadensis</i>
Jack-in-the-pulpit	<i>Arisaema triphyllum</i>
Wild ginger	<i>Asarum canadense</i>
Milkweed species	<i>Asclepias tuberosa, A. syriaca, A. verticillata, A. incarnata</i>
Wild indigo	<i>Baptisia tinctoria</i>
Harebell	<i>Campanula rotundifolia, C. americana</i>
Black snakeroot	<i>Cimicifuga racemosa</i>
Coreopsis species	<i>Coreopsis lanceolata, C. palmata, C. tripteris</i>
Purple coneflower	<i>Echinacea purpurea, E. pallida</i>
Rattlesnake master	<i>Eryngium yuccifolium</i>
Joe-pye weed	<i>Eupatorium maculatum, E. purpureum, E. fistulosus</i>
Boneset	<i>Eupatorium perfoliatum</i>
Flowering spurge	<i>Euphorbia corollata</i>
Wild geranium	<i>Geranium maculatum</i>
Prairie smoke	<i>Geum triflorum</i>
False sunflower	<i>Heliopsis helianthoides</i>
Alum Root	<i>Heuchera americana</i>
Virginia waterleaf	<i>Hydrophyllum virginianum</i>
Iris—blue flag	<i>Iris virginica, I. versicolor</i>
Blazing Star	<i>Liatris aspera, L. spicata</i>

Blue lobelia	<i>Lobelia siphilitica</i>
Virginia bluebells	<i>Mertensia virginica</i>
Bee balm	<i>Monarda fistulosa</i>
Horsemint	<i>Monarda punctata</i>
Beardtongue (Penstemon sp.)	<i>Penstemon digitalis, P. hirsutis</i>
May Apple	<i>Podophyllum peltatum</i>
Solomon's Seal	<i>Polygonatum biflorum,</i>
Black-eyed Susan	<i>Rudbeckia fulgida, R. hirta</i>
Bloodroot	<i>Sanguinaria canadensis</i>
Ragwort	<i>Senecio aureus, S. obovatus</i>
Blue-eyed grass	<i>Sisyrinchium angustifolium</i>
Celandine (wood) poppy	<i>Stylophorum diphyllum</i>
Spiderwort	<i>Tradescantia ohioensis</i>
Vervain species	<i>Verbena hastata, V. stricta</i>
Ironweed	<i>Veronica missourica</i>
Culver's-root	<i>Veronicastrum virginicum</i>
Golden Alexanders	<i>Zizia aurea</i>

## Woody Plants

New Jersey Tea	<i>Ceanothus americanus</i>
Virgins's Bower	<i>Clematis virginiana</i>
Witch Hazel	<i>Hamamelis virginiana</i>
Great St Johnswort	<i>Hypericum.spp</i>
Juniper	<i>Juniperus spp</i>
Spice Bush	<i>Lindera benzoin</i>