



Photo by Teresa Golden

Living with Deer

Topics we'll cover today

- The Value of Wildlife
- Know Your Enemy!
- Wildlife Resistant Plants
- Repellants and Scare Tactics
- Fencing
- Population Management
- Summary



The Value of Wildlife

- Animals help maintain the Earth's natural environment by
 - predating upon plants and other animals,
 - pollinating various plants, and
 - exhaling carbon dioxide, which green plants require to live.
- Animals help to fertilize plants via their droppings, which provide nutrition for plants, and seed-dispersal tendencies, which help plants to disperse through habitats.
- Animals also serve as food for microorganisms and supplemental minerals for plants.
- They are valued for their beauty and grace

We all love watching nature in our backyards

- Turkeys roosting in the fields
- Ducks and geese flying in and out of ponds
- Red-tailed hawks, turkey vultures, herons and eagles soaring above us
- Song birds are constantly visiting
- Raccoons, red foxes and opossums stopping by
- Skunks making their presence known
- Owls keeping us awake at night
- Woodpeckers pounding holes in decaying trees
- Deer appearing everywhere
- Woodchucks, rabbits, gray squirrels and chipmunks sharing our patch of ground
- Turkeys becoming less wild around us
- Beavers building dams in creeks
- Coyotes becoming commonplace
- Black bears multiplying

So what's the problem to be managed?

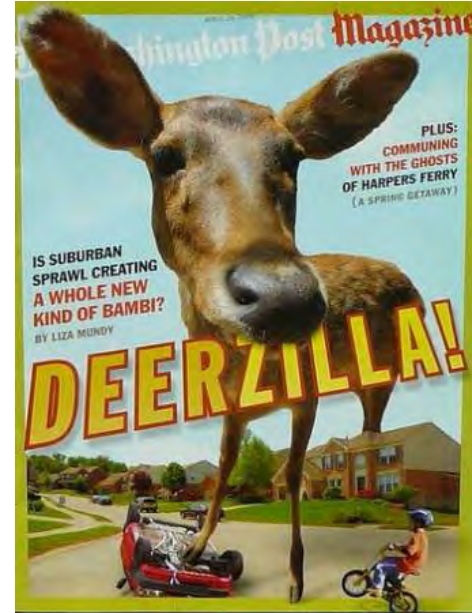
- Spread of disease
- Vehicle/animal collisions
- Infestation of homes
- Destruction of lawns/flower beds
- Consumption of veggie crops
- Damage to homes/driveways from beaver dam breaks



Wildlife is everywhere. You can love them or



Photo by Teresa Golden



Impact of High Deer Populations

- Deer-vehicle collisions
 - >70,000 deer-vehicle collisions annually in NYS
 - Nationally, the average property cost per collision is >\$4,000
- Crop damage
 - NYS farmers estimate \$59 million of deer-related crop damages (2002)
 - 25% of farmers say deer damage a significant factor affecting profits
- Tick-borne disease
 - Reducing deer populations can reduce tick densities and infection rates
- Plant diversity and forest structure
 - High density deer browsing reduces diversity in the forest understory, enables invasive species to out-compete natives and prevents many seedlings from growing into the next generation of trees.

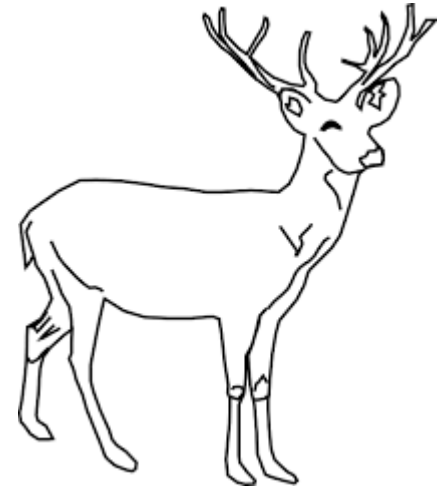
Short History of Deer in New York State

- Large numbers of deer roamed the Northeast forests before the colonists
- 1741: Killing of deer prohibited from Jan-May, but allowed by farmers in cornfields
- 1902: Deer hunting was prohibited
- 1910: Deer population was 20,000 with 500,000 nationally
- 1988: The **deer population of New York State** rose to 800K; +350K over 10 years
- 2018: ~ 1 million **deer in New York state**
 - Hunters take about a quarter million **deer** each year (228,000 five-year average)
 - US population ~20 million deer

White-Tailed Deer

Facts

- *Odocoileus virginianus*
- Native to North, Central and South America
- Reddish-brown coat in spring and summer that turns grey-brown in fall and winter
- White underside tail is characteristic and raised when alarmed to warn that predator has been detected
- Longer snouts and greyer coat indicates an older deer



The eyes have it!

- Dichromatic (two color vision) with blue and yellow primaries.
- Horizontally slit pupils allow for good night vision and color vision during the day but they poorly distinguish the oranges and reds.
- 310 degree field of vision with a pupil that lets in 9X more light than the human eye



Bucks grow antlers once a year

- Bucks weigh 125-200 lbs. and are ~3.5 feet tall with a typical summer weight of 150 lbs..
- Antlers grow over a 2-4 month period starting in late spring
- When the velvet is rubbed off, bucks may strip bark off small-diameter trees, helping to mark territory and polish their antlers. It can take as little as 24-48 hours for the antlers to fall off but the shedding process takes between 2-3 weeks.



The babies are cute!

- Females give birth to one to three spotted fawns in mid-late spring.
- The average fawn weighs only 4-8 lbs. at birth
- Males leave their mothers after a year with females leaving after two.



Photo by Teresa Golden

White-tailed Deer Habitat and Diet

- Live on the forest edge
 - Mixed conifer/hardwood forests, shrub lands and old fields
 - ~20 deer per square mile can start to destroy a forest
- Adapt to a wide range of habitats and digest a variety of foods
 - 4 chambered stomach with digestive microbes that change with the seasons
- Consume 3% of their body weight daily (~4-6000 calories or 4-10 lbs. of food)
 - A full grown deer can eat around 2,000-3,000 lbs. of vegetation annually
- Eat legumes, grasses, clover, acorns, fruit, corn, twigs, leaves and buds with a preference for tender, new growth.
 - Diets vary by season and availability of food sources
 - They can eat mushrooms and poison ivy

Deer Diet

- **January to March:** Coniferous browse, deciduous bark and dry leaves, acorns and other nuts, winter fruits such as rose hips, sumac, and poison ivy (4 to 5 lbs./day).
- **April to June:** Herbaceous plants and grasses followed by buds & shoots of shrubs & trees (7 to 10 lbs./day).
- **July and August:** Herbaceous vegetation, young leaves, new growth of shrubs and trees, gardens.
- **September to December:** Soft (fruits) and hard (nuts) mast. Acorns make up to 50% of diet. Bramble leaves, mushrooms, gardens.



Photo by Teresa Golden



How Much Do Deer Eat?

- 3,000 lbs. per year compared to 1,500 lbs. per year for the average human
- 7 lbs. per day. A healthy deer density is 18 to 30 deer/square mile. Problem herds are 100 deer/sq. mile or more
- *Example: 100 deer X 7 lbs./day equals 4900 lbs./week, 21,000 lbs./month, and 255,500 lbs./year*



Photo by Teresa Golden

Deer Prefer Tender Grasses and Plants

- Deer have incisors only on the bottom, so they pull/pinch rather than cut their forage. Their bottom incisors impact on upper pad of cartilage.
- They also recognize the nutritional value of fertilized vegetation.



Deer Browse



- Deer tear or jerk plants – often uprooting them. They leave ragged, broken ends from the ground level up to 6 feet high. By contrast, rabbits and rodents typically leave a clean cut surface or simply clip a stem.

Deer browse?



Photo by Teresa Golden

Deer 'Resistant' Plants



The following lists of wildlife-resistant plants are not definitive. They are based on the experience of local gardeners, and those gardeners have not planted every kind of plant to determine whether it is deer-resistant. Also, deer diets differ from area to area.

So please use these lists as a starting point for your personal experimentation. Study other lists. Ask other neighborhood gardeners about what works for them.

Conventional Wisdom About Deer Food Preferences



- Deer tend to avoid:
 - toxic plants – Daffodil
 - fuzzy-leaved plants – Lamb’s Ear, Lavender
 - aromatic herbs – Spotted Mint, Parsley, Fennel, Mints, Sages
 - strong-tasting plants – Allium
 - prickly-leaved plants – Spruce
- Your local deer may ignore conventional wisdom and may not read lists of deer-resistant plants, so experiment and see what works in your yard

A Sample of Deer ‘Resistant’ Flowers

- Artemisia
- Bee Balm
- **Black-eyed Susan**
- Blanket Flower
- **Bleeding Heart**
- **Butterfly Weed**
- Catmint
- **Coneflower**
- **Crane’s Bill**
- **Geranium**
- Daisy
- **Foxglove**
- Gaura
- **Goldenrod**
- Hellebore
- Iris
- **Ironweed**
- Lantana
- Lavender
- Lily-of-the-Valley
- **Little Bluestem**
- **Milkweed**
- Moss Phlox
- Nasturtium
- Ornamental Grasses
- Peony
- **Purple Hyssop**
- Russian Sage
- Salvia
- Sea Holly
- **Switchgrass**
- **Threadleaf**
- **Coreopsis**
- Tickseed
- Yarrow

Deer Resistant Perennials [Deer](#)

[Missouri Botanical Garden](https://www.missouriipublicgarden.org)

Astilbe (Astilbe)
Bee Balm (Monarda)
Bergenia (Bergenia)
Black-Eyed Susan (Rudbeckia)
Butterfly Weed (Asclepias)
Columbine (Aquilegia)
Coreopsis (Coreopsis)
Crane's Bill (Geranium)
Cyclamen (Cyclamen)
Daisy, Fleabane (Erigeron)
Daisy, Shasta (Leucanthemum)
Dame's Rocket (Hesperis)
Foam Flower (Tiarella)
Gentian (Gentiana)
Geum (Geum)

Goldenrod (Solidago)
Hellebore (Helleborus)
Hibiscus (Hibiscus)
Iris (Iris)
Jacob's Ladder (Polemonium)
Lychnis (Lychnis)
Marsh Marigold (Caltha)
Meadow Rue (Thalictrum)
Meadow Sweet (Filipendula hexapetala)
Monkshood (Aconitum)
Peony (Paeonia)
Phlox (Phlox Subulata)
Pinks (Dianthus)
Purple Coneflower (Echinacea)
Rock Cress (Arabis)
Russian Sage (Perovskia)

Salvia (Salvia)
Sedum (Sedum)
Sempervivum (Sempervivum)
Snakeroot (Eupatorium)
Sneezeweed (Helenium)
Snow-in-Summer (Cerastium)
Soapwort (Saponaria)
Speedwell (Veronica)
Toadflax (Linaria)
Valerian (Valeriana)
Violet (Viola)
White Mugwort (Artemisia lactiflora)
Yarrow (Achillea)
Yucca (Yucca)

Deer Resistant Herbs

Angelica (Angelica)	Feverfew	Parsley (Petroselinum)
Artemesia (Artemesia)	(Chrysanthemum)	Perilla (Perilla)
Basil (Ocimum)	Germander (Teucrium)	Rosemary (Rosmarinus)
Borage (Borago)	Horehound (Marrubium)	Rue (Ruta)
Burnet (Sanguisorba)	Hyssop (Hyssopus)	Sage (Salvia)
Catmint (Nepeta)	Lamb's Ear (Stachys)	Santolina (Santolina)
Chamomile (Matricaria)	Lavender (Lavendula)	Savory (Satureja)
Chives (Allium)	Lemon Balm (Melissa)	Thyme (Thymus)
Comfrey (Symphytum)	Lovage (Levisticum)	
Dill (Anethum)	Mint (Mentha)	
Fennel (Foeniculum)	Mullein (Verbascum)	
	Oregano (Origanum)	

Deer Resistant Bulbs

Allium (Allium)

Autumn Crocus
(Colchicum)

Crown Imperial
(Fritillaria)

Crocus (Crocus)

Daffodil (Narcissus)

Eranthis (Eranthis)

Fritillary (Fritillaria)

Glory-of-the-Snow
(Chionodoxa)

Grape Hyacinth
(Muscari)

Narcissus (Narcissus)

Puschkinia (Puschkinia)

Scilla (Scilla)

Snowdrop (Galanthus)

Snowflake (Leucojum)

[Deer \(missouribotanicalgarden.org\)](https://missouribotanicalgarden.org)

Deer Resistant Annuals and Biennials

Ageratum (Ageratum)

Campanula

(Campanula)

Candytuft (Iberis)

Forget-Me-Not

(Myosotis)

Four O'Clock (Mirabilis)

Foxglove (Digitalis)

Heliotrope

([Heliotropium](https://www.essentialgarden.org))

Larkspur (Delphinium)

Lobelia (Lobelia)

Marigold (Tagetes)

Mexican Sunflower

(Tithonia)

Monkey Flower

(Mimulus)

Morning Glory

(Ipomoea)

Moonflower (Ipomoea)

Nasturtium

(Tropaeolum)

Petunia (Petunia)

Poppy (Papaver)

Salvia (Salvia)

Snapdragon

(Antirrhinum)

Stock (Matthiola)

Sunflower (Helianthus)

Sweet William

(Dianthus)

Thistle (Cirsium)

Deer Resistant Shrubs

Barberry (Berberis)
Beautybush (Kolkwitzia
amabilis)
Boxwood (Buxus)
Coralberry
(Symphoricarpos)
Forsythia (Forsythia)
Holly, Chinese (Ilex
cornuta)
**Holly, American (Ilex
opaca)**
[Deer \(Missouribotanicalgarden.org\)](http://Missouribotanicalgarden.org)

Inkberry (Ilex glabra)
Juniper (Juniperus)
Kerria (Kerria)
Lilac (Syringa)
Oregon Grape (Mahonia)
Pieris, Japanese (Pieris
japonica)

Smoke Bush (Cotinus)
Snowberry
(Symphoricarpos)
Spicebush (Lindera)
Spirea (Spiraea)
Summersweet (Clethra)
Sweet Shrub
(Calycanthus)
Witch Hazel (Hamamelis)

Deer Resistant Trees

[Deer \(missouribotanicalgarden.org\)](http://missouribotanicalgarden.org)

Ash (*Fraxinus*)

Baldcypress (*Taxodium*)

Beech (*Fagus*)

Birch (*Betula*)

Catalpa (*Catalpa*)

Chestnut (*Castanea*)

Dawn Redwood

(*Metasequoia*)

Eastern Redcedar

(*Juniperus*)

Ginkgo (*Ginkgo*)

Hemlock (*Tsuga*)

Ironwood (*Ostrya*)

Larch (*Larix*)

Locust, Black (*Robinia*)

Locust, Honey (*Gleditsia*)

Mimosa/Silktree (*Albizia*)

Pine, Austrian (*Pinus nigra*)

Pine, Mugo (*Pinus mugo*)

Pine, Red (*Pinus resinosa*)

Pine, Scotch (*Pinus sylvestris*)

Redbud (*Cercis*)

Russian Olive (*Elaeagnus*)

Sassafras (*Sassafras*)

Smoketree (*Cotinus*)

Sourwood (*Oxydendrum*)

Spruce (*Picea*)

Sweetgum (*Liquidambar*)

Sycamore (*Platanus*)

Tree Lilac (*Syringa reticulata*)

Tuliptree/Yellow Poplar (*Liriodendron*)

Deer ‘Candy’ or What not to plant

- Dalilies
- English Ivy
- Hostas
- Knockout Roses
- Pachysandra
- Pansies
- Tulips
- Apple Trees
- Arborvitae
- Azaleas
- Blue or Black berries
- Cherry Trees
- Locust trees
- Yew

Options to consider for deer 'candy'

Plant deer 'candy' among plants deer tend to avoid



Photo by Teresa Golden

Deer tend to avoid enclosed or 'busy' spaces so deer 'candy' might flourish in those areas



Photo by Teresa Golden

G. Solar-Charged Laser Beam Repels Night Predators.
Animals that hunt or feed at night fear being watched. Solar-powered Nite Guard® automatically flashes a red LED beam from dusk to dawn, scaring off raccoons, bears, deer, owls, and other nighttime "critters" from up to 500 ft. away. Mount unit at approximate eye level of the animal you wish to deter. Weatherproof, maintenance-free—no batteries needed! 3" x 2".

K17-19 Nite Guard® Solar Predator Control Light \$39.99 NOW \$29.99

see video on our YouTube channel



D. Keep Deer Out of Your Yard Without Harsh Chemicals.
Keep destructive deer—and their disease-carrying ticks—away from your property with the Deerchaser™. Motion-activated up to 25 ft. from the unit, it protects the area and redirects the deers' path of travel using a super-bright LED light and sound from a built-in FM radio. Features volume control and time duration setting. Mounting hardware included. Requires 3D batteries. Plastic. 10" x 4".

KA9-029 Deerchaser™ \$39.99



Repellex Systemic Deer and Animal Repellent Tablets
Repellex Systemic Animal Repellent is the only product on the market to systemically protect plants from damage caused by deer and other animals. Unlike other repellent products which are sprayed onto the plant surface, Repellex Systemic Animal Repellent is absorbed through the roots and protects plants from the inside out. Repellex Systemic Animal Repellent was developed for use on landscape plants and non-edible crops. The active ingredient is capsaicin, a concentrated extract of hot chili peppers. Since it can't be washed off the plant, it should not be applied to crops for consumption.

UP TO 90 DAYS OF PROTECTION.

Item	Tablets	Ship wt	Price
REP50	50	1 lb	\$20.99
REP150	150	2 lb	\$54.99





Repellent Options

Deer & Rabbit Repellent Garlic Clips
Repel rabbits and deer without harming them! Are animals bothering your plants? Keep them away with the power of garlic. Once you activate the safe, 100% organic formula, the repelling odor lasts 6-8 months. Simply break the seal with the enclosed metal tool and clip sideways onto plants or fences. Use one dispenser every 4' to 6'. Sideways placement prevents water from blocking the garlic odor. Available in blue for easy viewing or green if you prefer they blend in with surrounding foliage.



K. Deer Repellent Stays Effective Even in Rain.
Keep marauding deer—and their disease-carrying ticks—away from your gardens, shrubs, and trees with this all-natural repellent. Unlike most sprays, powders or liquids, each solid cake remains effective for 10-12 months, even through rain or snow. And they're reusable next season. Formulated with a citrus scent that's pleasant to humans but deer hate! No poisons or chemicals. Simply hang in the included mesh bags wherever deer tend to feed.



OMRI Listed

Plantskydd® Repellent Soluble Powder
All natural deer repellent lasts 3-4 months during growing season, up to 6 months over winter. Repels by scent for best results. Non-offensive odor to people. Active ingredient is dried blood meal, environmentally safe. **OMRI (Organic Materials Review Institute) listed.** Developed for commercial forest planting in Sweden, now produced in the USA. Rainfast in 24 hours. Repels deer, rabbit and elk. Acts as a foliar feed fertilizer on many plants. 2.2 lb soluble powder concentrate treats 400-600 seedlings. **Made in the USA.**



Repellent Programs

- Repellents
 - are behavior modifiers **BUT** their performance is variable
 - perform well under moderate wildlife pressure **BUT** may be ignored
 - weather rapidly and require frequent application as new growth requires protection
- Potential issues include:
 - Plant damage concerns
 - Labelling restrictions (make sure repellent is approved for NYS)
 - Equipment problems (heavy binding agents slurries clog equipment)
 - Noxious and/or unaesthetic product residues



Photo by Jean Thomas

Using Commercial Deer Repellents

- Will not be effective if deer pressure is very high
- What works in one area may not work in another
- Must be typically reapplied about every 6-8 weeks
- Change repellent & active ingredient at least annually
- Ready-to-use formulations are expensive
 - Buy in concentrate form to reduce cost, but follow package directions!
- If deer are a long term problem, a fence might be a more permanent & economical solution.



Deer Repellents for Vegetables and Small Fruits

- Repellent sprays containing ingredients that offend a deer's sense of taste or smell work best
 - Rotten eggs, fish or meat byproducts, bitter taste
- Few products are labeled for edible plants. Most are for ornamentals, so **read labels carefully**. Those labeled for edibles wash off during rain.
- You must reapply repellents periodically, especially after rains or when plants are putting out new growth.



1-5/8" Post Packs – These deluxe deer fence posts are made from 055 hot zinc-dipped galvanized steel and will last 30 years. With a special vinyl coating allows your deer fence to blend into the natural landscape. Post Pack includes sleeve and standard cap. Heights are listed in finished heights.

Item	Description	Ship wt	Price
DEE8205	1-5/8" post with sleeve and cap for 8' Fence - 7 pk.	87 lb	\$197.99
DEE8210	1-5/8" post with sleeve and cap for 7.5' Fence - 7 pk.	84 lb	\$194.99
DEE8206	1-5/8" post with sleeve and cap for 6' Fence - 7 pk.	49 lb	\$169.99
DEE8067	Driver Cap for sleeve of 1-5/8" Post	5 lb	\$26.99

The Deer Fence Access Gate

– Comes with the outer frame, hardware and inner frame. The outer supporting frame is made with 1-5/8" pipe and the inner swinging gate is made with 1-3/8" pipe. Mesh fence sold separately. All dimensions include mounting frame.

Item	Size
Deer Fence Access Gate	
TAG191	7' H x 3' W
TAG192	7' H x 4' W
TAG193	7' H x 5' W
*Install in concrete or ground	
Driveway Gate	Size
DG202	7' H x 8' W

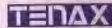
Fencing Options



Heavy Duty Polypropylene Mesh Fencing
 (virtually invisible when installed, yet provides considerable protection. Strong, lightweight, and easy to install. A great alternative to wire and electric fences, and it will last for several seasons due to UV inhibitors added in the material. Black mesh is available in two sizes to choose: (a) 1.75" x 2" mesh with standard strength of 600-650 lb/ft breaking load, and (b) 1.77" x 1.96" mesh with extra strength of 700-750 lb/ft breaking load. Because deer are such great jumpers, we recommend a minimum height of 7.5'.

DEER FENCE STYLES LISTED IN ORDER OF STRENGTH & BREAKING LOAD.

Item	Size	Ship wt	1-2	3+
(C-Flex Standard Strength by Tenax (600-650 lb/ft breaking load)				
N733	7.5' x 330'	48 lb	\$308.99	\$303.99
N765	7.5' x 165'	25 lb	\$185.99	\$182.99
N710	7.5' x 100'	10 lb	\$123.99	\$120.99
N865	8' x 165'	30 lb	\$195.99	\$192.99
N633	6' x 330'	38 lb	\$267.99	\$262.99
N610	6' x 100'	17 lb	\$108.99	\$103.99
(C-Flex P Extra Strength by Tenax (700-750 lb/ft breaking load)				
N7533	7.5' x 330'	65 lb	\$432.99	\$429.99
N7533	7.5' x 165'	37 lb	\$247.99	\$242.99



NEW

Black Steel Grid Fencing.

100-Foot Roll
 Make your deer fence even better!

Black Steel Grid Fencing with a 1" square grid design. This fencing features a welded 19-gauge steel wire interior. Galvanized grid using a hot dip process and finishes it with a black PVC coating. Choose your desired height below. Sold in 100-foot long rolls.



Use Black Steel Grid Fencing in tandem with your existing deer fence. The grid design keeps out smaller, chewing animals like rabbits and groundhogs. The PVC coating makes the fencing rust-proof. We recommend securing along the ground with the same stakes used to anchor your deer fencing.

Nearly invisible when viewed from a distance.

SBF3100	3' x 100'	\$134.99
SBF4100	4' x 100'	\$179.99



Photo by Teresa Golden

Fencing Options for Deer

- Woven wire or polypropylene mesh
 - 6-7 feet adequate deterrent for most home owners
 - Woven wire: \$6-8 per foot to install
 - Polypropylene mesh costs \$2-3 per foot, plus labor
- High tensile electric fencing
 - Requires regular maintenance due to heavy snows and/or dry soil conditions.
 - Can be high initial installation cost
- Polytape electric fences
 - Temporary fence works best under light deer pressure during summer and fall; Peanut butter entices deer to sniff the fence where they are shocked and learn to avoid fenced areas.



Polypropylene varies in thickness

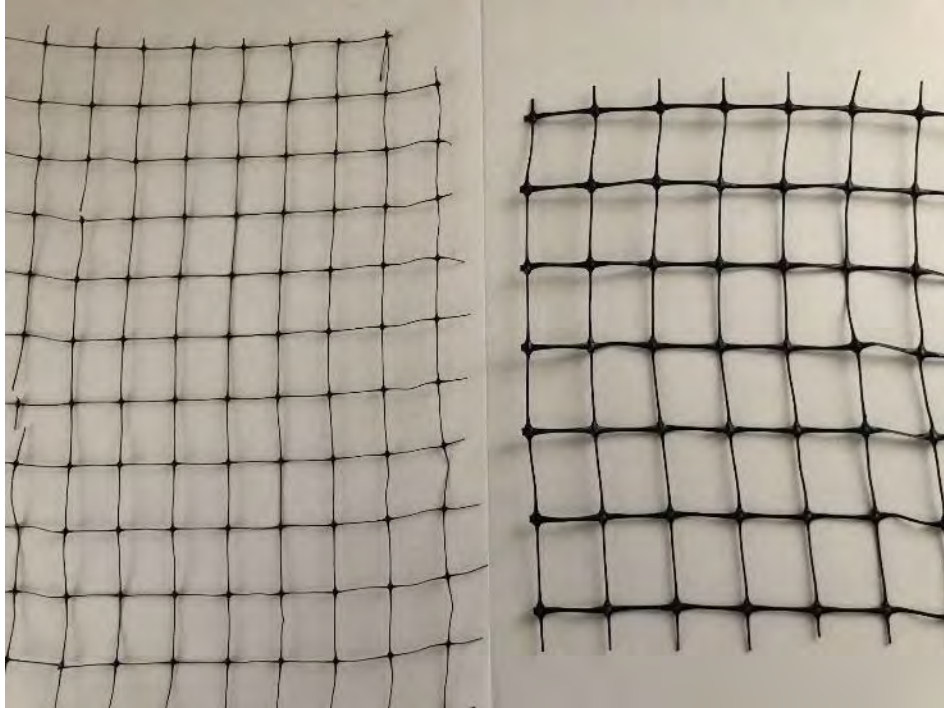


Photo by Teresa Golden

Woven wire varies by size



Photo by Teresa Golden



Photo by Teresa Golden



Photo by Teresa Golden

Protect Trees Below the ‘Browse Line’,

about 5 feet from ground to the lower limbs



Deer Fencing for Vegetables and Small Fruits

Fencing is best: 8 ft or higher fence of wire or plastic...



Costly to install but low maintenance and effective

If existing fencing is not tall enough, consider adding extra height



A Lower Cost Option for Small Gardens



Photo by Teresa Golden



Photo by Teresa Golden

More Deer Fencing Options

- Shorter fences and electric fences using baited electric polytape or wire are good for small areas



Population Management for Deer

- Too many deer is the problem.
- Encourage local officials to work with wildlife professionals to harvest deer in your area.
- Support managed hunts and bow hunting on small acreage properties.
- Allowing high deer populations results in other safety and environmental problems, such as Lyme disease, vehicle collisions, and damage to ecosystem.



Epizootic Hemorrhagic Disease (EHD)

- Viral disease of white-tailed deer that is transmitted by biting midges
- Not spread directly from deer to deer and **humans cannot be infected**
- Local outbreaks are most common in the late summer and early fall
- Deer infected with EHD may appear lame or dehydrated
 - Usually die within 36 hours of showing signs of infection
 - Carcasses are often found in or near water.
- The first hard frost should kill midges, ending EHD outbreaks
- No treatment and no means of prevention

Chronic Wasting Disease (CWD)

- A fatal disease found in deer, elk, and moose **not currently known to be in NYS**
 - New York is the only state to have eliminated CWD.
- No evidence it can [infect humans](#), but the CDC recommends not consuming infected animals.
- Precautions advised when handling, processing, and eating big game meat.
 - Wear rubber gloves when field dressing and processing animals.
 - Minimize handling of brain and spinal tissue; Sanitize hands/instruments thoroughly after field dressing. Soak tools for 1 hour in a 50% solution of bleach/water
 - Avoid consuming the brain, spinal cord, eyes, spleen, tonsils, intestinal tract, and lymph nodes.
 - Normal field dressing, coupled with boning out a carcass, will remove most, if not all, of these body parts. Cutting away fatty tissue will remove remaining lymph nodes.
- Bag and dispose of remaining carcass parts in the trash or municipal landfill.
- Prions spread through saliva, urine, and feces of infected animals.
 - **Avoid natural deer urine products**
- Feeding artificially concentrates animals in one location, increasing the likelihood of diseases to spread.

Preventive Advice from the DEC: REPEL

- **Remove food sources**

- Clean up food around bird feeders and remove all feeders and suet in the spring and summer
- Secure or remove garbage immediately and wait until the day of trash pick-up to bring outside
- Feed pets indoors
- Use fencing to cover gardens and plants
- Pick up dropped fruit on the ground
- Use landscaping plants that do not attract problem animals

- **Eliminate cover and shelter**

- Get rid of piles of brush, logs, junk, etc., and stash firewood away from your house or other buildings.
- Mow tall grass near houses or other buildings. Wait until November to mow tall grass to ensure that nesting birds have left the area and that turtles near waterbodies have become fully inactive.

- **Put up barriers**

- Use chimney covers and soffit vents
- Fence in areas such as gardens and underneath decks
- Seal entry holes that lead into the house. Ensure there are no animals inside as this can lead to worse problems.

- **Excite or agitate**

- Use visual repellents such as scarecrows or lights
- Create noise (i.e. yelling, noisemakers) - be sure to check noise ordinances in your area
- Haze (i.e. chase away with dogs, remote control cars and planes, etc.). Do not haze a migratory bird that is nesting, as this is a violation of the Migratory Bird Treaty Act.

- **Legally remove or "take"**

- [Contact a Nuisance Wildlife Control Operator](#) - hire a professional to remove problem wildlife from your property.
- [Remove or "take" nuisance animals on your own](#) in accordance to New York State laws and regulations.

Key Takeaways for Successful Coexistence with Wildlife

- Install a fence
- Use a dog to chase wildlife out of the yard
- Plant resistant varieties
- Plant enough so you won't mind sharing some
- Read and compare notes with other gardeners
- Spray repellents persistently
- Protect shrubs & young trees up to the “browse line”
- Remember: Wildlife don't read “don't eat” lists and in tough times will eat just about anything



The End!



www.ccecolumbiagreene.org/gardening