

Deer Resistant Native Riparian Plants

A note about deer resistant plants: Inclusion on this list is no guarantee that deer will not browse the plants, although listed plants seem to be less appealing to deer. Unfortunately, deer are not predictable, especially in areas where high populations of deer have over-browsed the woodland under story. In such cases, they are likely to eat any plants they can find to survive.



Grasses and Grass-like Plants

Andropogon gerardii-(big bluestem)

Panicum virgatum-(switchgrass)

Herbaceous Plants

Aquilegia Canadensis-(eastern or wild columbine)

Arisaema triphyllum-(jack-in-the-pulpit)

Asarum canadense-(wild ginger)*

Asclepias tuberosa-(butterflyweed, butterfly milkweed, butterfly flower)

Baptisia australis-(wild blue indigo, false blue indigo)

Campanulastrum americanum(*Campanula Americana*)-American or tall bellflower)

Coreopsis tripteris-(tall coreopsis, tall tickseed)

Dicentra eximia-(wild bleeding heart)

Geranium maculatum-(wild geranium, wood geranium)

Helenium autumnale-(yellow or common sneezeweed)

Iris prismatica -(slender blue flag)

Iris versicolor-(blue flag)

Iris virginica-(Virginia blue flag)

Jefferson diphylla-(twinleaf)

Lobelia cardinalis-(cardinal flower)*

Lobelia siphilitica-(great blue lobelia)*

Lupinus perennis-(lupine, sundial lupine)

Phlox divaricata, stolonifera-(woodland or wild blue phlox, wild sweet William)

Podophyllum peltatum-(Mayapple)*

Polemonium reptans-(Jacob's ladder, Greek valerian)

Rudbeckia fulgida,-(early, eastern, or orange coneflower)

Rudbeckia hirta-(black-eyed Susan)

Solidago Canadensis-(Canada goldenrod)

Solidago odora-(sweet goldenrod)

Symphyotrichum (*Aster*) *novae-angliae*(New England Aster)

Veronicastrum virginicum(*Veronica virginica*)-(Culver's root)

Shrubs

Aralia spinosa-(Devil's walking stick) * seeds are poisonous if chewed

Cornus amomum-(silky dogwood, red willow, silky cornel) **

Hamamelis virginiana-(witch hazel)

Hypericum densiflorum-(dense St. John's wort) * can spread aggressively

Illex verticillata-(winterberry,winterberry holly, black alder) * berries poisonous to humans, berries on female plants, need male plant to pollinate

Kalmia latifolia-(mountain laurel)

Leucothoe racemosa- (fetterbush, sweetbells)

Lindera benzoin-(spicebush)

Spiraea tomentosa-(steeplebush, hardback spirea)

Viburnum acerifolium-(maple-leaved arrowwood)

Viburnum prunifolium-(black haw)

Trees

Acer negundo-(box elder, ash leaf maple, Manitoba maple) **
Acer rubrum-(red, scarlet, swamp, or soft maple)
Amelanchier Canadensis-(serviceberry, shadbush, shadblow)
Betula nigra-(river birch, red birch, black birch)**
Carpinus caroliniana-(American hornbeam, muscledwood, ironwood)
Cercis Canadensis-(eastern redbud)
Cornus florida-(flowering dogwood)*
Diospyros virginiana-(common persimmon)
Fagus grandifolia-(American beech)
Fraxinus Americana-(white ash)
Fraxinus pennsylvanica-(green ash, red ash, swamp ash)
Ilex opaca-(American holly)
Juniperus virginiana-(eastern red cedar)
Magnolia virginiana-(sweetbay magnolia)
Nyssa sylvatica-(black gum, sourgum, black or swamp tupelo)
Pinus echinata-(shortleaf pine, shortstraw pine, southern yellow pine)
Pinus rigida-(pitch pine)
Pinus taeda- (loblolly, old field, or North Carolina pine)
Pinus virginiana- (Virginia pine, scrub pine, Jersey pine)
Quercus alba-(white oak, stave oak)
Quercus bicolor-(swamp white oak, swamp oak)
Quercus ilicifolia-(bear oak, scrub oak)
Quercus marilandica-(blackjack oak, Jack oak)
Quercus michauxii- (*Q. monitana*)- (swamp chestnut oak, basket oak, cow oak)
Quercus muehlenbergii-(Chinquapin or chinkapin oak, yellow oak, chestnut oak)
Quercus palustris- (pin oak, swamp oak, Spanish oak)
Quercus phellos-(willow oak, pin oak, peach oak)
Quercus prinus (*Q. Montana*)- (chestnut oak, rock oak)
Quercus rubra-(northern red oak)
Quercus stellata- (post oak, iron oak)
Quercus velutina- (black oak, yellow bark oak, quercitron oak)

Vines

Celastrus scandens- (American bittersweet) (Note: DO NOT get the oriental bittersweet which has become a major problem in many wooded areas.)
Clematis virginiana- (virgin's bower)*
Lonicera sempervirens- (trumpet or coral honeysuckle)

* May be browsed occasionally. **Suitable for live stakes

Resources

Department of Conservation and Recreation Division of Natural Heritage, web site address is-
www.dcr.virginia.gov/dnh/natvripa.htm http://www.dcr.virginia.gov/natural_heritage/nativeplants.shtml

For problems with your plants or more guidance in choosing the plants, call the Virginia Cooperative Extension Master Gardener Help Desk on Wednesdays from May through October from 10:00am to 12:00pm. The phone number is 434-591-1950.

Suggested plants were taken from the *Native Plants for Wildlife Habitat and Conservation Landscaping – Chesapeake Bay Watershed* published by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, www.chesapeakebay.fws.gov.