



Lake Lansing Park North

Deer Resistant Native Plant Garden



Photo Courtesy of Leslie Kuhn



* Photo Courtesy of B.S. Walters



Photo Courtesy of Nick Sanchez



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* Photo Courtesy of A.A. Reznicek

Is your yard an open fridge?

White-tailed deer play an important role in our natural communities and are a valued species for outdoor recreation. Experts believe that deer populations in southern lower Michigan now have exceeded social carrying capacity. Due to the absence of most natural predators and landscape alterations, deer-car collisions, crop damage, and over-browsing of gardens have grown common. An overpopulation of deer can also harm the health of the deer herd and have negative impacts on plant communities in our natural areas, causing localized extirpation of species such as Canada yew. Here we focus on what you can do to help in your own garden, by showing you some beautiful native Michigan plants that resist deer browsing. Many of these plants grow naturally in Lake Lansing Park North!



Photo Courtesy of Maine.gov

Here are some helpful tips:

- Avoid feeding deer in your yard
- Bring in your bird feeders at night or add a limited amount of seed per day
- Avoid plants that attract deer, such as hostas, lilies, and roses

Include deer-resistant native plants (see mnppa.org for sources, or contact midmich@stewardshipnetwork.org). This will:
 Reduce the introduction of exotic & invasive species into our natural areas
 Reduce the amount of water and remove the need for fertilizer, saving time, money, and pollution!



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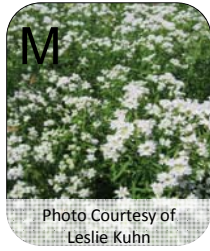


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Photo Courtesy of Jim Hewitt



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Deer Resistant Garden Native Plant List

- A. Nodding Wild Onion (*Allium cernuum*)
- B. Spikenard (*Aralia racemosa*)
- C. Butterfly Weed (*Asclepias tuberosa*)
- D. Sand Coreopsis (*Coreopsis lanceolata*)
- E. Purple Coneflower (*Echinacea purpurea*)
- F. Wild Geranium (*Geranium maculatum*)
- G. Great St. John's Wort (*Hypericum ascyron*)
- H. Rough Blazingstar (*Liatris aspera*)
- I. Horsemint (*Monarda punctata*)
- J. Eastern Prickly Pear (*Opuntia humifusa*)
- K. Smooth Penstemon (*Penstemon digitalis*)
- L. True Solomon's Seal (*Polygonatum biflorum*)
- M. Mountain-Mint (*Pycnanthemum tenuifolium*)
- N. Prairie Dock (*Silphium terebinthinaceum*)
- O. Old Field Goldenrod (*Solidago nemoralis*)
- P. Indian Grass (*Sorghastrum nutans*)
- Q. Prairie Dropseed (*Sporobolus heterolepis*)
- R. Spiderwort (*Tradescantia ohioensis*)
- S. Golden Alexanders (*Zizia aurea*)
- T. Native Bush Honeysuckle (*Diervilla lonicera*)
- U. Fragrant Sumac (*Rhus aromatica*)

This garden was designed and installed by Mid-Michigan Stewardship Initiative leader Jim Hewitt with volunteers from Lansing Christian School and the local community. (*) photo from Michiganflora.net