

# Deer Facts:



Know the Facts  
about Living with  
Deer and Deer  
Hunting



**ANIMAL  
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COUNTY**


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 **Hunting actually increases the deer population:** While the numbers do decrease immediately after a hunt, over time the deer population increases due to increased nutritional health for the remaining deer. Several scientific studies indicate that better-nourished deer have higher productivity, lower neonatal mortality, increased conception rates, and increased pregnancy in yearlings. In hunted populations, does are more likely to have twins rather than single fawns, and are more likely to reproduce at a younger age, helping the population grow even faster.

 **Hunting won't stop deer from eating ornamental flowers and plants:** Killing deer because we want to protect certain vegetation does not stop the surviving deer from eating those same plants. See list of 'deer-resistant' plants on back. Also deer repellants, and fencing techniques designed to minimize garden and landscape damage by deer are recommended.

 **Hunting does not stop the spread of Lyme disease:** Although deer are the primary carrier of the adult lyme disease tick many wildlife species carry the larval and nymph stages of the tick which are most infectious to humans. The tick can be found on 49 bird species and are commonly carried by white-footed mice, chipmunks, grey squirrels, voles, foxes, rabbits, and opossums. When deer numbers are reduced, ticks tend to congregate at higher densities on the remaining deer or switch to alternate hosts.

 **Killing deer won't reduce automobile accidents:** Killing some deer does absolutely nothing to prevent the surviving deer from crossing the roads. It even has been suggested that hunting season has a disruptive effect by startling deer and putting them more "on the run".

 **Bow hunting:** Bow hunting does not effectively reduce deer populations due to extremely high crippling rates. Scientific studies indicate that bow hunting yields more than a 50% crippling rate. While a deer shot with a rifle takes 5-10 minutes to die an animal shot by a bow may take 60-70 minutes.

# Deer-Resistant Plants

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## TREES

Allegheny Serviceberry  
American Beech  
Bottlebrush Buckeye  
Bradford Pear  
Chinese Paper Birch  
Corkscrew Willow  
Crape myrtle  
Downey Serviceberry  
European Beech  
Heritage Birch  
Honeylocust  
Japanese Cherry  
Magnolia  
Paper Birch  
Red Maple  
Sassafras  
Walnut  
Weeping Willow

## GROUND COVER

Bugleweed  
Fern  
Pachysandra  
Periwinkle

## EVERGREEN TREES

Black Pine  
Colorado Spruce  
Douglas Fir  
Frasier Fir  
Japanese Cedar  
Magnolia  
Norway Spruce  
Red Pine  
Scotts Pine  
White Spruce

## EVERGREEN SHRUBS

Boxwood  
Cherry Laurel  
Drooping Leucothoe  
Inkberry  
Japanese Andromeda  
Japanese Garden Juniper  
Japanese Holly  
Mugo Pine  
Oregon Grape Holly  
Viburnum  
Wintergreen Barberry

## DECIDIOUS SHRUBS

Abelia  
Barberry  
Beautybush  
Cinquefoil  
Cotoneaster  
Forythia  
Lilac  
Smokebush  
Spirea  
Viburnum

## PERENNIALS

Astilbe  
Bachelor Button  
Balloon Flower  
Barrenwort  
Basket of Gold  
Bee Balm  
Bellflower  
Black-eyed Susan  
Bleeding Heart  
Blue Milkweed  
Bolton's Aster  
Catmint  
Columbine  
Coral Bells  
Coreopsis  
False Indigo  
Gas Plant  
Gayfeather  
Globe Thistle  
Goatbeard  
Golden Marguerite  
Goldenrod  
Grasses  
Hellabore  
Hen & Chicks  
Jack in the Pulpit  
Joe Pye Weed  
Lamb's Ear  
Lavender  
Lily of the Valley  
Meadowsweet  
Monkshood  
Peony  
Plumbago

Plume Flower  
Poppy  
Purple Coneflower  
Purple Spurge  
Ragwort  
Russian Sage  
Salvia  
Spiderwort  
Turtlehead  
Windflower  
Wormwood  
Yarrow

## ANNUALS

Begonia  
Cleome  
Dahlia  
Foxglove  
Hollyhock  
Marigold  
Petunia  
Salvia  
Snapdragons  
Zinnia

## BULBS

Allium  
Bluebells  
Crown Imperial  
Cyclamen  
Daffodil  
Hyacinth  
Iris  
Mountain Bells