

Deer and rabbits are tough garden pests to deal with. Unfortunately, there is no such thing as a completely 100% deer and rabbit proof plant. As you can imagine, the critters don't know they won't like it until they try it! This is a list of plants that they prefer to not eat. While not comprehensive, these are selections of some of our favorite plants for each category that we have this year.:

Golden Spirit Smokebush *Continus coggygria 'Ancot'*



The Smokebush is a beautiful shrub that deer and rabbits both avoid. When it blooms it grows frilly pink flowers that are beautiful with morning dew! Golden Spirits new growth starts orange then yellow and ages to chartreuse. In the fall they get a blend of yellows, oranges, and reds!

Nannyberry Viburnum *Viburnum lentago*



This large low maintenance native is frequently avoided by rabbits and deer. It produces beautiful white flowers that develop to small edible berries that can be made into jams (if you can beat the birds to them first)!

Butterfly Weed *Asclepias tuberosa*



If you like butterflies, you'll love this perennial! Butterfly Weed is a variety of Milkweed, so its sap contains latex-y toxins that keep herbivores away! Butterfly Weed grows glowing orange blooms that draw in all kinds of wonderful pollinators!

Russian Sage *Salvia yangii* (Previously *Perovskia atriplicifolia*)



Russian Sage is a tough cookie! It can handle drought very well. It grows bright purple blooms a top tall lacy and silvery foliage. When you rub its leaves, it releases a very pleasant aroma! Deer and Rabbits prefer to steer clear of this plant as well!

Felix Supreme Peony *Paeonia lactiflora* 'Felix Supreme'



This beautiful ruby flowered peony is a great variety for growing cutflowers! Like all Peonies, deer and rabbits prefer to not eat it. Its huge double petaled blooms will light up your garden in mid-summer.

Cherry Brandy Rudbeckia *Rudbeckia hirta* 'Cherry Brandy'



This beautiful red bloomer goes all summer long! Its stunning blooms make great cut flowers and dried flowers too! Its very low maintenance and has low water needs. How can you go wrong? Rudbeckia isn't palatable for rabbits or deer.