

# Deer Resistant Plants



Martha (Marty) Teumim

20 years Master Gardener Volunteer  
Albany County CCE

1 husband, 2 grown daughters,

2 grandchildren

2 cats

Retired English teacher

Delmartian



# Caveat

With the possible exception of spiny Barberries (*Berberis*), there are no absolutely deer-proof plants. However...



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Japanese Barberry (*berberis thunbergii*) is prohibited in New York because:

“barberry-infested areas host up to 12 times more ticks than areas without barberry.

Unfortunately, these areas serve as host to the triumvirate of Lyme Disease: deer, rodents, and the Lyme Disease pathogen, *Borrelia burgdorferi*.”

Jeffrey Ward Department of Forestry & Horticulture  
Connecticut Agricultural Experiment Station,

## Characteristics of Deer Resistant Plants

- Bitter taste
- Leaf texture (hairy, leathery, spiky)
- Color (deer often avoid gray/silver foliage)
- Pungent aroma (interferes with their sense of smell, which is their primary method of detecting danger)



Bitter Taste

**Marigold** *Tagetes* or  
*species Calendula Officinalis*



Globe Thistle  
*Echinops spp.*



Leaf Texture  
Hairy, Leathery, Spiny

Color

Grey or Silver

**Lamb's Ears**  
*Stachys Byzantina*



## Catmint and Mints

*Nepeta and Mentha spp. Family Lamiaceae*



Lemon Balm

*Melissa officinalis*

Pungent Odor

# Characteristics of Deer Resistant Vegetables and Herbs



- root vegetables (which require digging)
- prickly vegetables such as cucumbers, melons, and squashes with hairy leaves.
- sharply-odored cultivars like onions, garlic and fennel



Rhubarb is  
toxic to deer.

fennel are not

## Melita's Smelly Mix

- Homemade deer and rabbit repellent for plants
- 2 eggs, beaten
- 2 tablespoons Murphy's Oil Soap
- Funnel these into a plastic milk jug.
- Fill to the top with water. Put on cap.
- Leave where it is warm. In warm weather it should be ready in a few days.



# Bulbs with lycorine

- Daffodils
- White Snowdrops
- Snowflakes



# Daffodils



PROFESSOR EINSTEIN



REPLETE



MOUNT HOOD



TAHITI

# White Snowdrops

## *Galanthus*



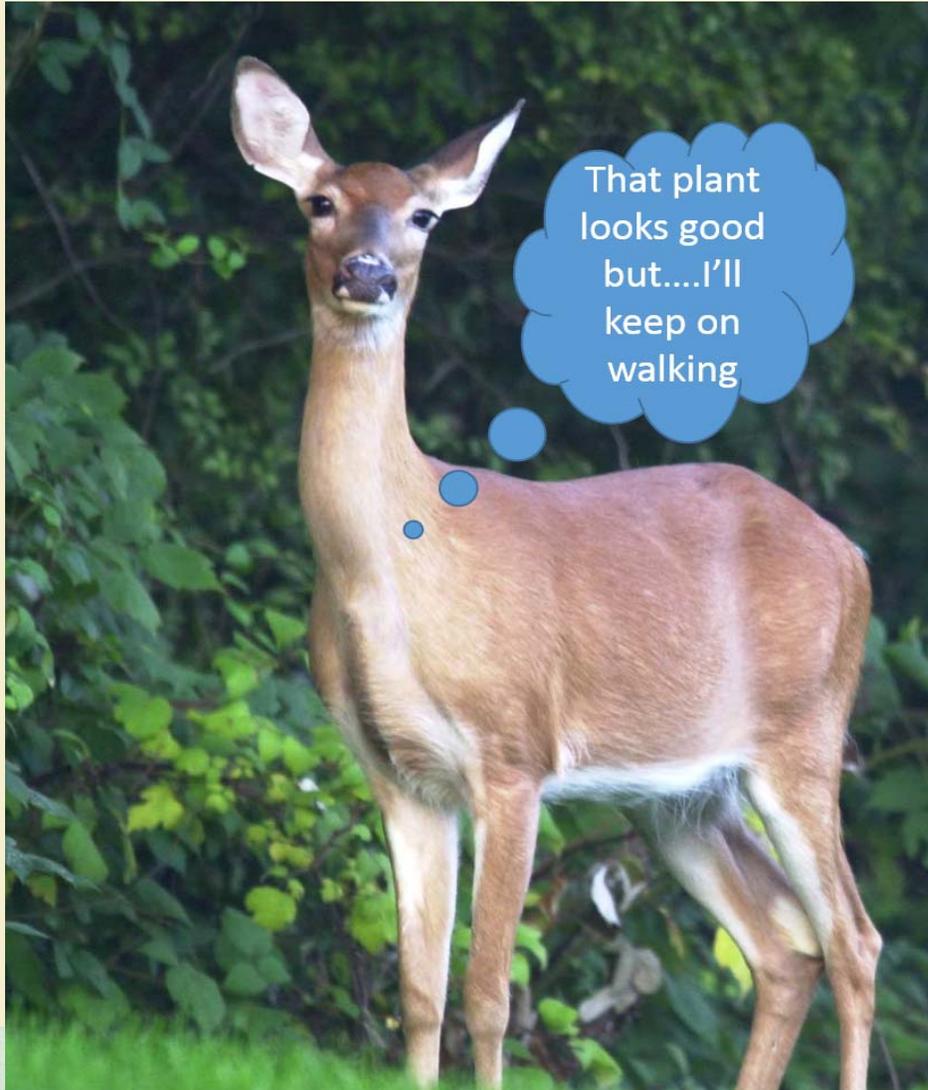


(with female  
hairy-footed  
flower bee)



# Snowflakes

Leucojum Aestivum



## Contact Information

- Cornell Cooperative Extension of Albany County
- 24 Martin Road
- Voorheesville, NY 12186
- 765-3500 Master Gardener Hotline
- [albanymg@cornell.edu](mailto:albanymg@cornell.edu)



# albany.cce.cornell.edu

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### Lead Education & Prevention

Cornell Cooperative Extension Albany County is committed to providing education and training on lead poisoning prevention. Listed below are several resources and opportunities, most of which are free.

[Read more >](#)

## LeadFree KIDS for a Healthy Future

“LIKE” Us!

No need to “LIKE” CCE Albany County on FACEBOOK to stay informed of our latest activities and events!

### Events

Calendar

4-H Volunteer Class  
Tomorrow  
7:45 AM - 12:00 PM

4-H Volunteers  
Tomorrow  
12:45 PM - 5:00 PM

Save Energy, Save Dollars  
Thursday, April 2  
12:30 PM - 2:30 PM

Monthly Albany Leads for Kids & Youth  
Parents, Staff  
Monday, April 8  
1:00 PM - 3:45 PM

Parent and Teen Communication  
Strategies for Effective Family Talk  
Thursday, April 22  
6:30 PM - 8:30 PM

[See more >](#)

### Cooperative Extension puts a wealth of useful, research-based information at your finger tips!

In addition to what you'll find here on our website, we offer free or low-cost workshops on topics that range from how to start an organic garden to making a home spending plan. Explore our links, check out our upcoming events, then give us a call or visit our Education Center to learn more. We're here to help, with information -- and people -- you can trust!

### 4-H Shooting Sports

Our 4-H Shooting Sports program is open to youth age 11-18 years. The program offers archery, air pistol and air rifle at the William Rios, Jr. Extension Center in May, July & October.

[Read more >](#)

### Healthy Recipes

Just 1lb of ground meat feeds 8 people, with added beans and veggies. In these "Turkey Tacos" from Cooking Matters, visit our "recipes" page for this recipe and more!

[Read more >](#)

### Volunteer with 4-H!

There are many ways that caring adults can volunteer to work with youth in the 4-H Program: as leaders, Advisory Board members, and more!

[Read more >](#)

### Houseplants

Growing plants indoors can be difficult, but here are some tips that may be helpful in making you successful at growing plants indoors.

[Read more >](#)

### Be Prepared!

CCE provides helpful information on how to prepare for emergencies including natural disasters, power outages, fire, infectious diseases, radiation spills and more!

[Read more >](#)

### Master Gardeners

Master Gardeners belong to a national corps of trained volunteers who share gardening information in their communities through the local Cooperative Extension offices.

[Read more >](#)

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### Gardening

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- [Food Gardening](#)
- [Gardening Speakers](#)
- [Global Warming & Your Garden](#)
- [Help For Gardeners](#)
- [Houseplants](#)
- [Lawns & Ornamentals](#)
- [Master Gardener Program](#)
- [Pests & IPM](#)
- [Soils & Climate](#)

### Have Gardening Questions?

Ask a Master Gardener

### Find Your Zone!



The 2012 USDA Plant Hardiness Zone Map  
 albany.cce.cornell.edu deners and growers determine



Coleus plants in a greenhouse

Home » Gardening



### Gardening

Cornell Cooperative Extension of Albany County is your resource for information on soils, site improvement, plant selection, proper plant care, eco-friendly practices, integrated pest management, composting and so much more! We offer free or low-cost gardening classes and tours all year long, and opportunities to share your love of gardening as a volunteer! Call us or come by today!



### Easy Care Perennials

Perennials offer year after year of blooms for your garden, and are a smart investment in your garden. Visit our resources to learn more.



### Making Compost!

Find resources here on how to start and maintain a home compost bin! Learn how to turn food and yard waste into "black gold" for your garden!



### Events



[Save Energy, Save Dollars Today](#)  
6:00 PM - 8:00 PM

[Protecting Pollinators: The New York Pollinator Conference](#)  
Tuesday, September 22  
8:30 AM - 4:00 PM

[New York Botanical Garden Bus Trip](#)  
Wednesday, September 30  
7:30 AM - 8:00 PM

[Save Energy, Save Dollars Saturday, October 17](#)  
10:00 AM - 12:00 PM

[Save Energy, Save Dollars Monday, October 19](#)  
7:00 PM - 9:00 PM

# gardening.cce.cornell.edu

The screenshot shows a Mozilla Firefox browser window displaying the Cornell Garden-Based Learning website. The browser's address bar shows the URL [gardening.cce.cornell.edu](http://gardening.cce.cornell.edu). The website header includes a navigation menu with links for [Blog](#), [Facebook](#), [Newsletter](#), [Educator E-List](#), and [Have a Question?](#). The main content area features the Cornell University logo (founded A.D. 1868) and the title "Cornell Garden-Based Learning" in red, with the subtitle "resources for gardeners and educators" below it. A horizontal navigation bar contains links for [Home](#), [For Educators](#), [For Gardeners](#), [News](#), [Connect](#), and [About](#). Below this is a large photograph of a vegetable garden with various plants in raised beds and white identification tags. The caption "Vegetable Variety Trials" is centered below the image. Underneath the main image is a section titled "Our Blog" with a series of small thumbnail images: a garden scene, a person's face, a close-up of a green leaf, and a collection of garden tools.

ANY  
QUESTIONS  
?