

Deer Resistant Native Plants for Keowee Key

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Suggested Plants for Keowee Key

have these criteria:

- **Deer resistant**
- **Native to this area**
- **Beneficial to wildlife**
 - **Food**
 - **Shelter**
 - **Place to raise young**

Deer Resistant Plants



What does
“deer resistant”
really mean?



Deer eating
acorns

Deer resistant does NOT mean deer proof!

Deer resistant means that **deer prefer not to eat them.**

Common characteristics of plants that deer prefer not to eat include:

- **Plants with thorny or prickly leaves or stems**
- **Plants with strong scents and pungent tastes**
- **Plants that are poisonous, or produce a thick, latex-like sap**
- **Plants with hairy leaves**

Why NATIVE plants?

- **Attract pollinators, including butterflies, bumblebees, honeybees, dragon flies, birds. Our yards become alive!**
- **Require less water, once established. Easy to grow!**
- **No need for harmful, dangerous chemicals or pesticides**
- **Resist mold, mildew, insect pests**
- **Produce more nectar and pollen than modern hybrids**
- **Native plants function in harmony with native animals.**

Native plants in my yard



Monarch on swamp sunflower



Swallowtail on Joe Pye Weed



Bumblebee on native milkweed

Plants that are: *deer resistant AND native*

▪ LARGE TREES:

- We live in an oak-hickory forest. Most of us have:
 - Oak (Southern Red Oak, Black Oak, White Oak)
 - Hickory (Mockernut)
 - Pine (Virginia, Loblolly, Shortleaf)
- You also probably have some of these:
 - Tulip poplar
 - Sourwood
 - Black Tupelo
 - Maple
 - Eastern Red Cedar
 - Sweet Gum
 - American Beech
 - Chestnut
 - Southern Magnolia

If you want to add large trees, these are good choices.

Plants that are: *deer resistant AND native*

LARGE TREES AUTUMN COLOR

Black Tupelo leaf



Sourwood tree



Maple
tree

Plants that are: *deer resistant AND native*

SMALL TO MEDIUM SIZE TREES

- Dogwood
- Red Buckeye
- Serviceberry
- American Holly
- Hawthorn



Dogwood



Red Buckeye

Plants that are: *deer resistant AND native*

SHRUBS

- Sweet Pepperbush
- Fetterbush
- Fothergilla
- Inkberry Holly
- Spicebush
- St. John's Wort
- Mountain Laurel
- Virginia Sweetspire
- New Jersey Tea
- Viburnum
- Carolina Allspice

Mountain
Laurel



St. John's Wort



Sweet
Pepperbush



Plants that are: *deer resistant AND native*

In general, the categories of **FERNS** and **GRASSES** are deer resistant!

FERNS

- Southern Maidenhair
- Lady Fern
- Holly Fern
- Cinnamon Fern
- Christmas Fern
- Southern Shield Fern
- Royal Fern (moist soil)

Christmas Fern



Southern Maidenhair



Southern Shield

Plants that are: *deer resistant AND native*

As a general guideline, the categories of ferns and grasses are deer resistant!

GRASSES

Pink Muhly Grass

Little Bluestem (Big Bluestem, also)

River Oats/Sea Oats

Indian Grass

Switch Grass

Fountain Grass



Pink Muhly Grass



Indian Grass



Little Bluestem

Plants that are: *deer resistant AND native*

FLOWERS FOR SUN

- Coneflower, purple
- Black-eyed Susan
- Butterfly Weed (orange)
- Common Milkweed
- Indian Blanket Flower
- Culver's Root (tall; sun or pt. shade)
- New York Ironweed (tall)
- Swamp Sunflower (tall)
- Common Yarrow
- Monarda, purple
- Beardtongue (Penstemon digitalis)
- Cardinal Flower
- Gayfeather/Blazing Star (Liatris spicata)
- Obedient Plant
- Autumn Sage (hummingbirds)
- Coreopsis
- False Indigo (blue or yellow)
- Wild Indigo (white)



Indian
Blanket
Flower



Butterfly
Weed

Plants that are: *deer resistant AND native*



Joe Pye
Weed



Indian
Pink

FLOWERS FOR SHADE

- Joe Pye Weed
- Indian Pink
- Lyre Leaf Sage
- Wild Red Columbine
- Woodland Phlox
- Common Bluestar
- Heart Leaved Aster
- Mountain Aster
- Wood Aster
- Early Meadowrue
- Culver's Root (tall; sun or pt. shade)

YOU CAN HAVE A BEAUTIFUL YARD USING DEER RESISTANT, NATIVE PLANTS!

