







# COMMON LANDSCAPE ISSUES OF THE MIDWEST

## Why these topics?

- Deer Resistant



- Poor Drainage/Wet Clay Soils



- Full Sun/Salt Tolerant



- Full shade (dry)



- Low Maintenance/Low water needs





# DEER RESISTANT

What does “Deer Resistant” really means?

- **Deer-resistant:** plants are less preferred, not immune
- **Pressure matters:** In areas with high deer populations or limited food, deer will eat almost anything
- **Seasonal browsing:** Damage increases in late winter/early spring when food is scarce
- **Young plants are more vulnerable** than established ones.





# DEER RESISTANT

## Why Deer Avoid Certain Plants

- Strong fragrance (aromatic foliage)
- Bitter or toxic sap
- Fuzzy, leathery, or spiny leaves
- Thick or coarse textures





# DEER RESISTANT

## Common Deer-Resistant Plants

### Perennials

- Lavender
- Russian sage (Perovskia)
- Yarrow (Achillea)
- Catmint (Nepeta)
- Hummingbird Mint (Agastache)
- Coneflower (Echinacea)



Sweet Romance®



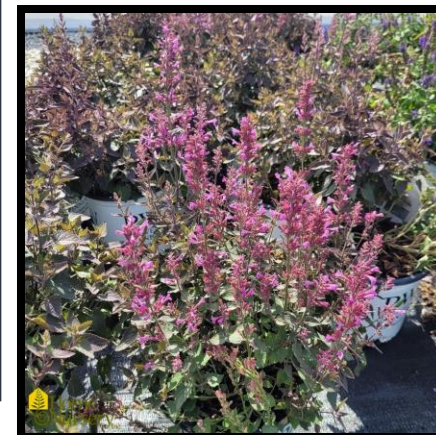
'Denim 'n Lace'



'Firefly Red Pop'



'Cat's Meow'



Meant to Bee™ 'Royal Raspberry'



Sombrero® Fuchsia Fandango



# DEER RESISTANT

## Common Deer-Resistant Plants

### Shrubs

- Boxwood (Buxus)
- Juniper
- Deutzia
- Spirea
- Lilac (Syringa)
- Barberry (Berberis)



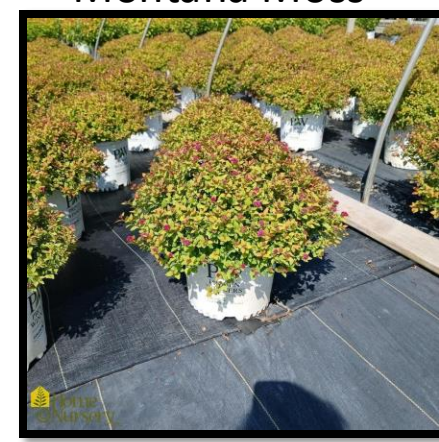
Sprinter®



Montana Moss®



Cherry Blossom®



Double Play Dolly®



Scentara® Double Blue



Sunjoy Neo®



# DEER RESISTANT

## Common Deer-Resistant Plants

### Trees

- Ginkgo
- Kentucky Coffee Tree (Gymnocladus)
- Honey locust (Gleditsia)
- River birch (Betula)
- Seven Son's Tree (Heptacodium)

### Groundcovers

- Pachysandra
- Vinca
- Ajuga



Temple Of Bloom®



'Chocolate Chip'



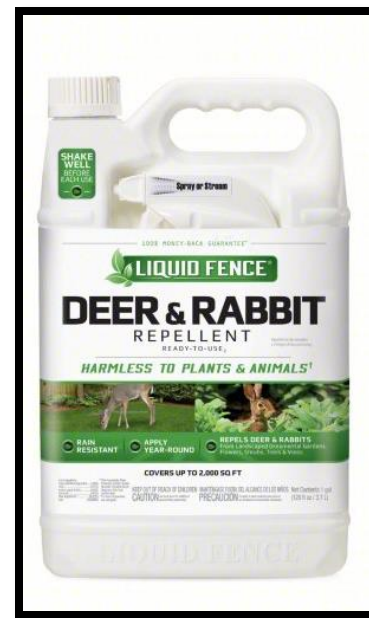
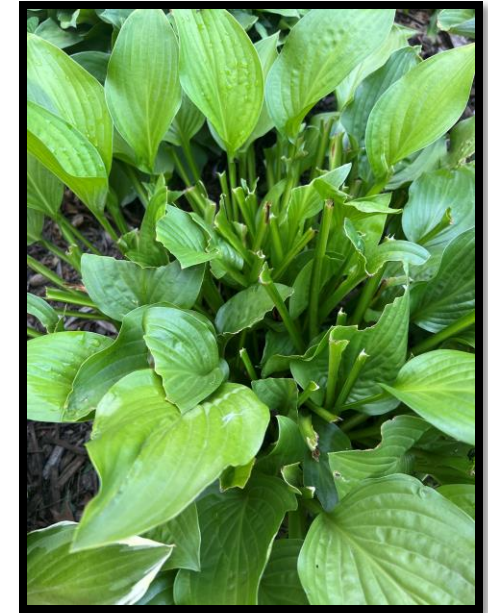
# DEER RESISTANT

## Plants Deer Commonly Prefer

- Hosta
- Arborvitae (Thuja)
- Daylilies (Hemerocallis)
- Black-eyed Susan (Rudbeckia)
- Yew (Taxus)

## Proactive measures to discourage deer activity

- Burlap
- Deer Scram/Garlic Spray







# POOR DRAINAGE/WET CLAY SOILS

## Why is this an issue?

- Heavy clay soils common in the Midwest retain excess moisture, leading to poor drainage, root stress, and increased disease pressure.
- Create prolonged wet conditions that limit oxygen availability and plant performance.
- Results in compaction and standing water after rain events.



# POOR DRAINAGE/WET CLAY SOILS

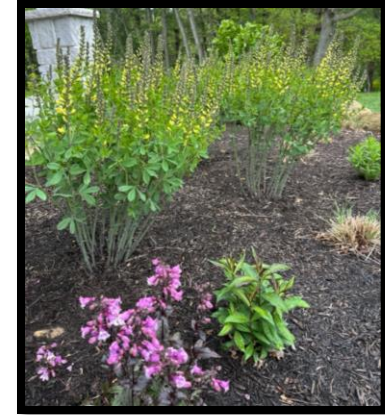


## Perennials

- Joe Pye Weed (Eutrochium)
- False Indigo (Baptisia)
- Iris
- Black-Eyed Susan (Rudbeckia)
- Bee Balm (Monarda)
- Astillbe



'Little Joe'



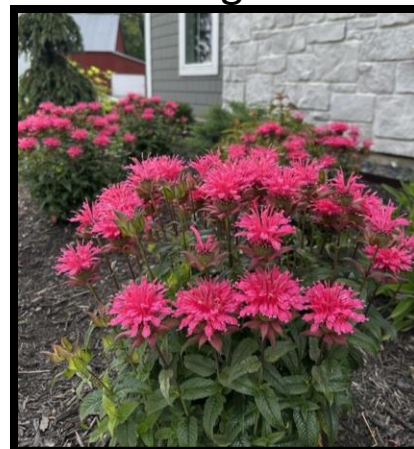
'Lemon Meringue'



'Variegata'



'American Gold Rush'



'Pardon My Rose'



'Visions'



# POOR DRAINAGE/WET CLAY SOILS



## Shrubs

- Buttonbush (Cephalanthus)
- Sweet Pepperbush (Clethra)
- Red Twig Dogwood (Cornus)
- Winterberry (Ilex)
- Virginia Sweetspire (Itea)
- Chokeberry (Aronia)



Sugar Shack®



Sugartina®



Arctic Fire® Red



Berry Poppins®



Fizzy Mizzy®



Low Scape Mound®



# POOR DRAINAGE/WET CLAY SOILS



## Trees

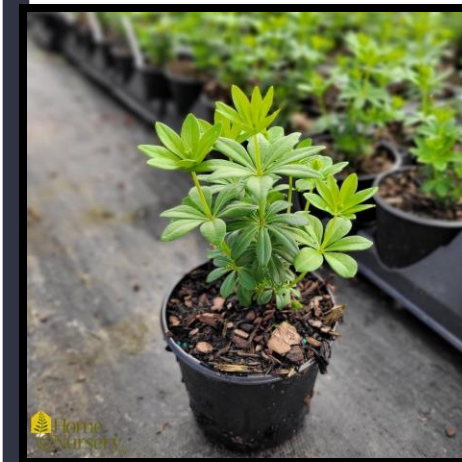
- Bald Cypress (Taxodium)
- Weeping Willow (Salix)
- Swamp White Oak (Quercus)
- Black Tupelo (Nyssa)

## Groundcover

- Sweet Woodruff (Galium)
- Wild Ginger (Asarum)



Taxodium distichum



Galium odoratum



Asarum canadense





# FULL SUN/SALT TOLERANT

## Typical Problem Areas

- Street edges and parkways
- Driveways and sidewalks
- Commercial entrances and parking lots
- Snow storage and plow zones



# FULL SUN/SALT TOLERANT

## Plant Stress Factors

- Salt spray and salt-laden runoff
- Soil compaction and low organic matter
- High heat and reflected light
- Drought stress during summer months







Fruit Punch® 'Classic Coral



Asclepias tuberosa



'Midnight Masquerade'



Vivid Dreams



Pyromania® 'Hot and Cold'



Prairie Winds® 'Totem Pole

## FULL SUN/SALT TOLERANT

### Perennials

- Cheddar Pinks (Dianthus)
- Butterfly Weed (Asclepias)
- Beardtongue (Penstemon)
- Sea Pink (Armeria)
- Red Hot Poker (Kniphofia)
- Switchgrass (Panicum)





Lil' Kim®



Haywire



Gin Fizz®



'Gemo'



'Gro-Low'



'Palibin'

## FULL SUN/SALT TOLERANT

### Shrubs

- Rose of Sharon (Hibiscus)
- False Cypress (Chamaecyparis)
- Chinese Juniper
- St. John's Wort (Hypericum)
- Fragrant Sumac (Rhus)
- Korean Lilac (Syringa)





'Idyllwild'



'Blue Chip'

## FULL SUN/SALT TOLERANT

### Trees

- Eastern Red Cedar (Juniperus)
- London Planetree (Platanus)
- Bur Oak (Quercus)

### Groundcover

- Creeping Phlox
- Stonecrop (Sedum)
- Creeping Juniper

# FULL SHADE (DRY)

## Why This Is a Challenge?

- Large mature trees compete heavily for water and nutrients
- Dense canopy blocks rainfall and sunlight
- Soils are often compacted clay
- Many popular plants fail without supplemental irrigation







## FULL SHADE (DRY)



### Plant Characteristics Needed for Success

- Tolerates low light
- Competes well with tree roots
- Handles inconsistent moisture
- Adaptable to Midwest freeze–thaw cycles

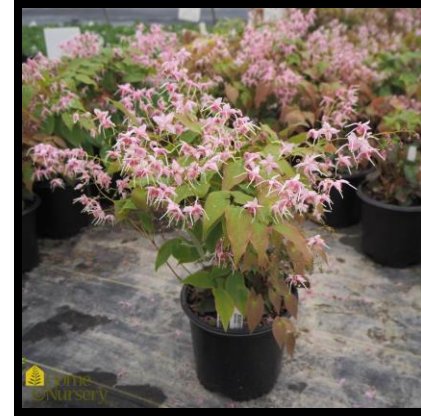
# FULL SHADE (DRY) ★

## Perennials

- Hosta
- Barrenwort (Epimedium)
- Lenten Rose (Hellebore)
- Golden Japanese Spikenard (Aralia)
- Columbine (Aquilegia)
- Japanese Forest Grass (Hakonechloa)



Shadowland® 'Autumn Frost'



'Pretty in Pink'



Wedding Party® Dark and Handsome



'Sun King'



Earlybird™ Red White



'All Gold'



# FULL SHADE (DRY) ★

## Shrubs

- Yew (Taxus)
- Leatherleaf Viburnum
- Doghobble (Leucothoe)
- Bottlebrush (Fothergilla)
- Northern Bush Honeysuckle (Diervilla)
- Climbing Hydrangea



Stonehenge Dark Druid™



Leatherleaf



Paisley Pup™



Legend Of The Small®



Kodiak® Red 2.0



subsp. petiolaris

# FULL SHADE (DRY)

## Trees

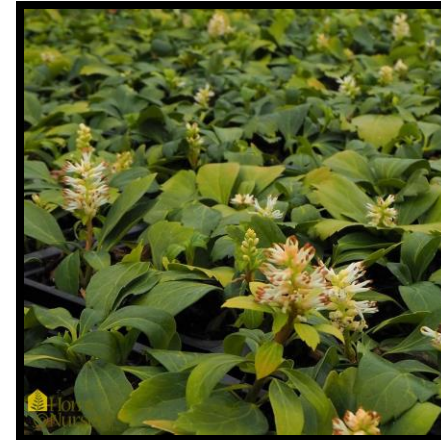
- Eastern Redbud (Cercis)
- Serviceberry (Amelanchier)

## Groundcover

- Pachysandra
- Vinca Minor
- English Ivy (Hedera)



Midnight Express®



'Green Carpet'



'Bowles'



# LOW MAINTENANCE/LOW WATER NEEDS



## Plant Characteristics Needed for Success

- Drought Tolerance
- Deep or Efficient Root Systems
- Adaptability to Midwest Soils
- Heat & Sun Tolerance
- Slow to Moderate Growth Rate
- Disease & Pest Resistance
- Long-Lived & Durable
- Minimal Fertilizer Needs
- Structural or Multi-Season Interest
- Non-Aggressive Growth Habit



# LOW MAINTENANCE/LOW WATER NEEDS



## Perennials

- Allium
- Coreopsis
- Stonecrop (Sedum)
- Blanket Flower (Gaillardia)
- Little Bluestem (Schizachyrium)
- Switchgrass (Panicum)



'Serendipity'



Designer Threads™ 'Heartstrings'



Rock 'n Grow® Bundle of Joy



'Flamenco Bicolor'



Prairie Winds® 'Blue Paradise'



Prairie Winds®  
'Cheyenne Sky'



# LOW MAINTENANCE/LOW WATER NEEDS



## Shrubs

- Bayberry (Myrica)
- Bluebeard (Caryopteris)
- Rose of Sharon (Hibiscus)
- Juniper
- Ninebark (Physocarpus)
- Spirea



Myrica



Beyond Midnight®



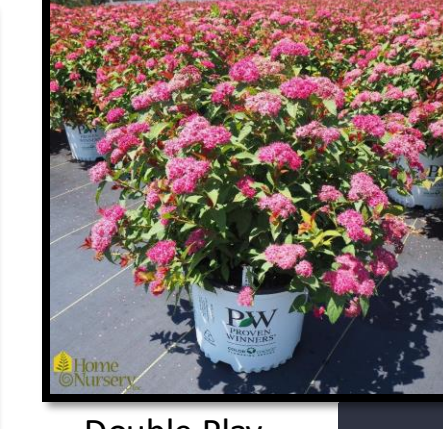
Paraplu Violet®



Golden Pacific™



Summer Wine®



Double Play  
Doozie®

# LOW MAINTENANCE/LOW WATER NEEDS



## Trees

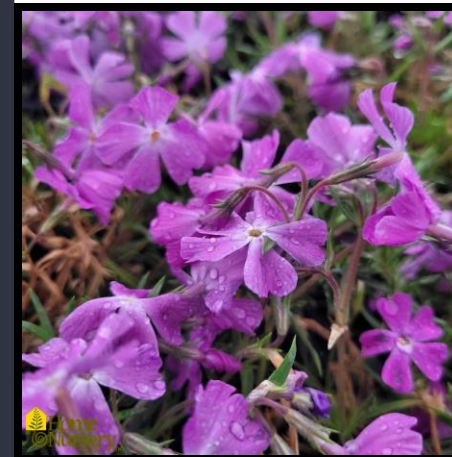
- Serviceberry (Amelanchier)
- Hackberry (Celtis)

## Groundcover

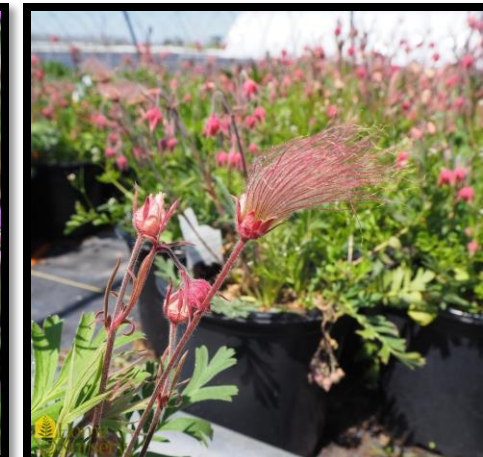
- Creeping Phlox
- Prairie Smoke (Geum)



Spring Glory®



'Rose Quartz'



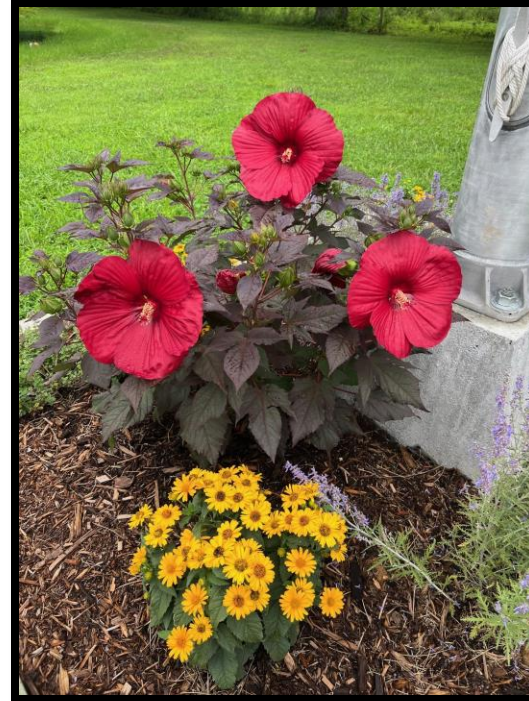
Geum triflorum



# EZSCAPE = SOLUTION

<https://ezscapes.com/>

- Walter's Gardens has developed a solution for every issue discussed today!



# Please review the show!





A wide-angle photograph of a large greenhouse. The interior is filled with rows of potted plants, likely roses, in white containers. The plants are arranged in neat rows, stretching into the distance. The greenhouse structure is made of metal arches covered with a translucent plastic or polyethylene film. The sky outside is bright blue with scattered white clouds. The overall scene is bright and airy, suggesting a healthy and productive growing environment.

# THANK YOU

We appreciate your business & partnership!