## **Deer Repellant Information**



The white-tailed deer is a stately, graceful animal distinguished by conspicuous ears, long legs, and narrow, pointed hooves. Adult males have spreading, branching antlers. The most noticeable feature is the tail, which is brown above and white underneath. When the animal is alarmed, the tail is raised high, revealing a white "flag" as the deer bounds off through the woods.

White-tailed deer vary seasonally in coloration. Their summer coat is reddish-brown to tan and is composed of short, thin hairs. The winter coat is grayish-brown to gray, with long, thick hairs. Fawns are reddish-brown with white spots, which they lose when they are three to four months old, usually by the end of August in Connecticut.

Whitetail deer have an extremely diverse diet, and have been known to eat over 600 different plants. They love to eat acorns, grasses, leaves, crops like soybeans and corn, berries, twigs, fungi, fruit, and nuts. Whitetail deer have a four chambered stomach, which allows them to digest extremely tough vegetation. They will eat quickly without chewing while feeding, and later they will cough their food up and chew it.

Whitetail deer have highly specialized teeth to help them with their diet. These deer have sharp incisors for biting through tough vegetation, and big molars for grinding it up food when they chew.

Let's talk about their diet. Plants like Arborvitaes especially in the winter months when food sources are low due to heavy snow pack.



## Knock out Roses thorns are no problem



Daylilies deer can't resist pulling these lovely plants out of the ground to eat the bulbs and leave you without flowers



Yews almost everyone has a yew in there landscape. Azaleas and Hosta are a few more and the list goes on and on.

Deterrents are how we battle to keep them out of your precious plants. These deterrents work on smell and taste. We have used many different products and finally found one that works. Best yet, it doesn't have an outward foul smell to humans, just animals. It is safe and OMRI certified. The deterrent does have a brownish color when applied, but that fades in a few weeks. Controls can last up to 6-8 weeks in the winter. Here in Connecticut that's about the length of our snow pack.

The attempt is to deter them away at first, then keep them away. It is a conditioning response to a negative stimulus. We are training the deer to seek food elsewhere as we are trying to protect your yard.