

# Rabbits & Your Home Garden

Rabbits can do considerable damage to flowers, vegetables, trees, and shrubs any time of the year. During the growing season, rabbits can devastate a garden. They thrive on the young succulent foliage of garden crops. Equally annoying, and often more serious, is the damage rabbits do to woody plants by gnawing bark and clipping branches, stems and buds when the ground is covered with snow for long periods. They can severely damage expensive home landscape plants.

Rabbit damage must be weighed in order to establish reasonable and rational controls. Generally rabbits feed in early morning and late evening during the summer and at night during the winter months. Correctly applied control techniques can reduce rabbit damage to gardens and trees to an acceptable level. The key is finding the right solution for your specific situation.

## • Physical Barriers

- Chicken wire fencing at 2.5 feet high around the perimeter of the garden, with the bottom tight to the ground or buried a few inches is adequate.
- Cylinders of ¼" wire hardware cloth will protect young fruit trees and landscape plants. The cylinder should be a few inches higher than the rabbits reach while standing on the expected snow depth. It should be out from the tree trunk at least 2". Commercial tree wrap materials can also be effective if the food supply is adequate for the rabbit population.

## • Environmental Conditions

Be sure there are no rabbit shelters near your garden area. Remove brush piles, weed patches, junk dumps, and stone piles. Rabbits will be less likely to stop for a snack if they feel exposed and unprotected.

## • Animal Repellents

When choosing to use repellents for the purpose of deterring any pest, it is important to read the complete label on any product chosen. Consider any human or pet interaction that may unintentionally take place. Repels-All, Liquid Fence, and Plantskydd are products that can work well in any garden situation when used correctly.

## Rabbit Resistant Perennials

<b>BOTANICAL NAME</b>	<b>COMMON NAME</b>
Achillea	Yarrow
Aconitum	Monkshood
Actaea	Black Snakeroot
Allium	Ornamental Onion
Astilbe	False Spirea
Baptisia	Wild Indigo
Bergenia	Pigsqueak
Campanula	Bellflower
Cerastium	Snow in the Summer
Convallaria	Lily of the Valley
Corydalis	Fumatory
Delphinium	Larkspur
Digitalis	Foxglove
Epimedium	Barrenwort
Euphorbia	Cushion Spurge
Ferns	Ferns
Geranium	Cranesbill
Helleborus	Lenten Rose
Hydrangea anomala petiolaris	Climbing Hydrangea
Iris	Iris
Liriope	Creeping Lilyturf
Lobelia	Cardinal Flower
Lupinus	Lupine
Malva	Mallow
Myosotis	Forget-me-not
Nepeta	Catmint
Opuntia humifusa	Prickly Pear Cactus

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## Rabbit Resistant Perennials Cont.

<b>BOTANICAL NAME</b>	<b>COMMON NAME</b>
Papaver	Poppy
Polemonium	Jacob's ladder
Pulmonaria	Lungwort
Salvia	Sage
Sedum	Stonecrop
Sempervivum	Hens and Chicks
Viola	Violet
Yucca	Adam's Needle

## Rabbit Resistant Herbs

Hyssop  
Lavender  
Sage  
Shiso  
Society Garlic  
Sweet Woodruff

## Rabbit Resistant Bulbs

Allium	Chinodoxa	Colchicum
Crocus tomasinianum	Eranthis	Fritillaria
Galanthus	Hyacinthoides	Leucojum
Muscari	Narcissus	Ornithogalum