

Deer Proofing Your Yard

The deer population continues to grow and be very healthy in Medina. We receive calls about the deer being in people's gardens and yards. We have put a list of ideas together that you can consider using to keep the deer off your property and out of your gardens.

- Put your lawn sprinklers on a motion detector that will release a spray of water when activated.
- Hang old CDs or tin plates from trees. Deer will be leery of the motion and stay away.
- Spread Milorganite which is an organic, slow release fertilizer made from Wisconsin sludge which the deer will avoid.
- Spread Blood Meal or blood products such as *Plantskydd Animal Repellent*; it lasts up to six months and over the winter.
- Spread coyote or human urine. Enough said.
- Make a homemade deer repellent recipe of:
Strong scents such as hotel soaps hung from trees, fabric softener strips and bags containing peeled garlic bulbs (hung up or spread on the ground)
- By making plants unpalatable by using products such as *Liquid Fence* or *Deer Away*.
- Plant deer resistant plants in your yard. There is a large list of plants that deer will typically leave alone due to the fact that they have an unpleasant taste or don't smell good to them.

Reasons for keeping deer off your property

- Deer carry diseases such as Lyme disease and Brucellosis.
- Deer attract predators. If deer are present in your area, natural predators won't be far away. Coyotes and bobcats carry disease and will also snatch pets and chickens.
- Deer will damage landscaping by eating tree bark and the leaves from plants. They can also weaken or destroy trees and plants by leaving gouges in them or nibbling them to the ground.
- Deer are aggressive when competing for food and will head-butt or trample people who get in their way.
- Deer cause collisions that kill about 150 people a year, not to mention the medical and auto repair costs incurred in these accidents.

If you have further questions about deer please feel free to contact the Medina Police Department at 763-473-9209.