TOP 10

SHRUBS AND TREES FOR DEER TOLERANCE
SELECTED BY PHIPPS CONSERVATORY AND BOTANICAL GARDENS

These plants are excellent choices for your home garden landscape. They are non-invasive, are resistant to disease and insects which eliminates the need to use pesticides, and require little or no watering or fertilization once established.

### TREES

**Bald Cypress**  
(Taxodium distichum)  
This stately 50 – 70 foot tall southwestern PA native deciduous conifer has bright yellow-green new foliage which turns a soft sage-green in summer, and then a rust orange-brown in fall. Globular 1 inch cones start out green, and then turn to purple and later brown over a year. It prefers moist, acid soil but is very adaptable to drier soil. Provide full sun.

![Bald Cypress](image)

**Cornelian Cherry Dogwood**  
(Cornus mas)  
This small tree with arching branches can grow 20 – 25 feet in height. It’s known for its frosty display of yellow flowers presented on bare twigs in early spring and its bright red, cherry-like drupes in summer. The tree’s flaking bark provides additional visual interest. Plant in full to part sun and in moist, well-drained soils.

![Cornelian Cherry Dogwood](image)

**Eastern Redbud**  
(Cercis canadensis)  
This southwestern PA native tree, often multi-stemmed, reaches 20 – 30 feet in height. Reddish-purple flowers bloom along the stems, starting at a young age. Performs well in full sun to light shade in average garden soil.

![Eastern Redbud](image)

**River Birch**  
(Betula nigra)  
A fast-growing southwestern PA native that is resistant to insects and diseases, this tree can reach 40 – 70 feet in height. Often multi-stemmed, it features beautiful, peeling bark in mixed shades of white, rust-orange, gray and brown. Elongated catkins appear in spring, and medium-green leaves change to a dark yellow in fall. An excellent tree for wet areas, it can also grow in drier soils. Plant in full sun to part shade.

![River Birch](image)

**Sweetbay Magnolia**  
(Magnolia virginiana)  
Fragrant, lemony-scented creamy white flowers adorn this beautiful 10 – 20 foot native tree in May – June, with occasional blooms throughout the summer. Grows well in average to wet soils in full sun to shade.

![Sweetbay Magnolia](image)

### SHRUBS

**Bottlebrush Buckeye**  
(Aesculus parviflora)  
This exceptional wide-spreading, suckering shrub reaches 8 – 12 feet in height and 8 – 15 feet in width. Medium to dark green summer foliage turns yellow-green in fall. Outstanding white, upright, 8 – 12 inch flower panicles bloom in late June to July. Plant this southwestern PA native in moist, well-drained soil enriched with organic matter in full sun to shade. It is especially nice for massing.

![Bottlebrush Buckeye](image)

**Carolina Allspice**  
(Calyocanthus floridus)  
Carolina allspice is a dense, 6 – 10 foot eastern U.S. native, rounded shrub that forms a thickets of multi-stemmed branches. In spring it has unusual, strap-like maroon flowers with a sweet, fruity fragrance, and the leaves turn gold and yellow in fall. There are many desirable cultivated varieties that have reddish, white or yellow flowers. This shrub is a wonderful pollinator and butterfly attractor and is deer resistant. It grows best with four hours or more of sun. It prefers moist soil, but will tolerate clay soil.

![Carolina Allspice](image)

**Koreanspice Viburnum**  
(Viburnum carlesii ‘Compactum’)  
Koreanspice viburnum is known for its extremely fragrant pinkish-white flowers that bloom in the spring. V. carlesii ‘Compactum’ is smaller than the species, growing to a maximum height of 4 feet. This shrub also provides autumn interest with brick red foliage. Plant in full to part sun and in moist, well-drained soils.

![Koreanspice Viburnum](image)

**Summersweet**  
(Clethra alnifolia ‘Sixteen Candles’)  
This improved selection of the popular Hummingbird flowering) to shade in moist soil. It is especially nice for massing.

![Summersweet](image)

**Witch Hazel**  
(Hamamelis virginiana)  
This southwestern PA native fall-blooming understory shrub, which can be found throughout local woodland areas, will reach 15 – 20 feet or more in height and spread. Flowers are fragrant with small yellow, strap-like petals and appear as the foliage turns yellow, or as it drops. It is a great option for a shrub border, providing a subtle beauty. Plant in sun (for best flowering) to shade in moist soil.

![Witch Hazel](image)

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