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Deer

Today on Gardening in a Minute: deer.

Deer are shy, graceful creatures. But these large mammals can really chew up a home landscape!

Deer multiply quickly and thrive where forest meets open space--in other words, in housing developments throughout the state.

Deer will eat vegetables, fruit trees, and ornamental plants. Tell-tale signs of deer damage include jagged tears left by their teeth on the ends of twigs and stems. You may also see their heart-shaped hoofprints.

You can try frightening the deer away with scare devices or using repellents, but where deer are persistent, fencing may be the only way to minimize their damage.

You can also try planting ornamentals that are less preferred by deer. Look for lists of the best plants for your area.

For more information about deer and many other gardening topics, contact your county Extension office or visit Gardening in a Minute dot com.

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