

How high?

Deer are natural high-jumpers. On level ground a fence 8' or taller is needed to discourage them from jumping it. On downward sloping ground it might take a 10' or taller fence. In addition to the costs associated with such a project, other fence height considerations include:

- *Fences over 6' require a building permit to ensure they are adequately supported.*
- *Fences built over easements may need to be removed if easement access is required.*
- *Front fences are generally limited to a maximum height of 4'; but fence height is restricted to 2' in "vision clearance" areas adjacent to driveway/street intersections.*

If you have questions about about your specific situation, contact the Corvallis Development Services Department for more information.



In this Corvallis deer fencing installation there is a wire to the left of the fence -- much like Example 3 in this brochure.

For more general information:

OSU Extension resources for gardeners, especially information on deer-resistant plants: <http://extension.oregonstate.edu/gardening/tips>.

Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife, with information on deer fencing recommendations for larger properties: <http://wdfw.wa.gov/living/deer.html>

Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife general information on "Living with Deer": http://www.dfw.state.or.us/wildlife/living_with/deer_elk.asp.

For more tips; if you have a question about a fawn on your lawn; or you think an animal is injured and needs to be removed: ODFW South Willamette Watershed District office, (541) 757-4186



For more information about neighborhood programs and resources, contact the City of Corvallis: www.corvallisoregon.gov

Here are a few simple reminders to avoid problems with deer:

- Pick your ripe fruit & vegetables as soon as they're ready!
- Pick up fallen fruit from the ground at least once a day
- Feed your pets indoors
- Please do not feed wildlife! It's bad for them, and bad for you

This brochure is provided courtesy of the Corvallis Infill Task Force, a voluntary citizen advisory group. Comments? Email us at corvallisinfill@gmail.com

Photos courtesy of Gail Milton and Kirk Bailey. Layout courtesy of Corvallis-Albany Farmers' Markets.

Fencing deer out of your garden

Corvallis has lots of great gardeners, and local deer know it!



Although you may have seen or heard about a variety of products – nets, screens, repellents, scents, mirrors, and much more – **fencing is the single most effective way to protect your garden**

Look inside for some deer fencing solutions that may work for you!

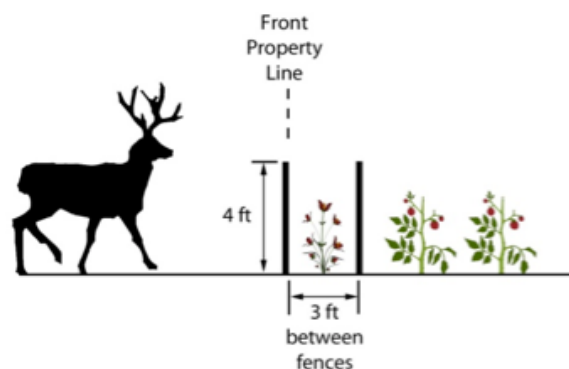
Three examples of short deer fences

Although tall fences are known to be effective, in some situations they simply aren't practical (or even permitted). The fence designs shown below are known to deter deer in other areas of the country, but locally there is more experience with tall fences. If you implement one of these schemes please consider letting us know what you did, and how it works out for you. Your experience can help us improve the designs.

Example 1: Use two fences

Deer can jump really high, but they don't like to jump wide! Based on experience from Corvallis and elsewhere, a 4' tall fence that is 3' wide may deter them. Unless you have a couple of truck loads of left over bricks, building a 3' thick fence might be a bit heroic -- fortunately two 4' tall fences separated by 3' should have a similar effect. And you can even put plantings in between them!

Example 1. Two 4' tall fences spaced 3' apart.

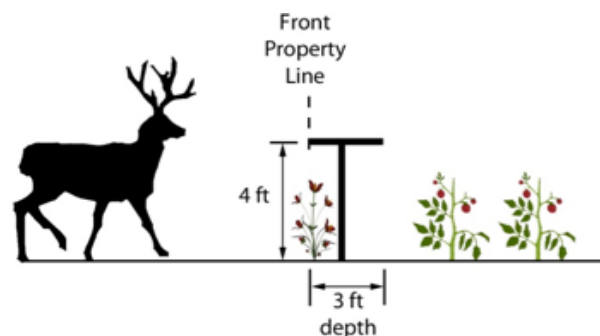


Example 2: Add a trellis

Actually, it turns out you don't even need two fences! A single fence with a 3' "top" (trellis, etc), may also work, and might make maintaining the fence area easier.

Happy gardening!

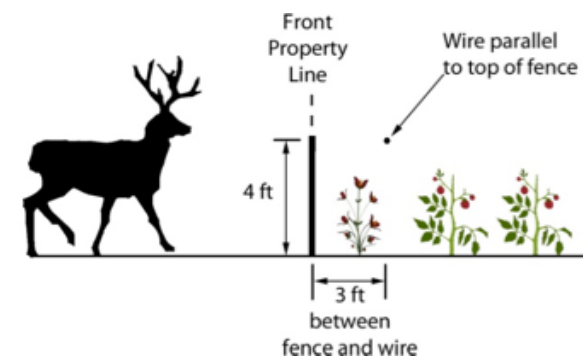
Example 2. One 4' tall fence with a 3' wide "top". The top can cantilever towards the inside or outside, or you can split the difference as shown.



Example 3: Add a wire

Another option that can work in some situations is to build a regular 4' fence on the outside and tautly stretch a piece of shiny wire 3' inside of it, at the same 4' height.

Example 3. One 4' tall outside fence with a shiny wire 3' inside of it, 4' off the ground. Make sure that the wire will be at least slightly visible at night so that the deer can see it. The combination of shiny Stainless Steel wire and ambient street lighting has proven successful in at least one Corvallis installation.



Note that in all three examples, the 3' dimension is important! If the fences are too far apart the deer will simply jump each fence individually.