

1-800-BIG-DEER

Quarterly Newsletter

Benner's Gardens

Keeping Deer Out Without Changing Your View



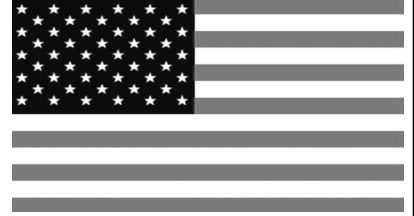
Going from consumer to cultivator...

There are few things in life that can compare to the delicious excitement and anticipation that comes from planting your very own home garden. There is something surprisingly satisfying about reaping the benefits from a piece of land that you have meticulously planted and tended with your very own hands. In addition to that feeling of personal pride that you suddenly discover as the

fruits of your careful labor materialize, planting a fruit and vegetable garden can also save you money in the long run. In this fluctuating economy, this idea can be a promising thought. As long as you have a bit of time and a little patience, growing your own produce can be a drastic way to reduce grocery bills. Even a small garden plot can be a helpful tool as per every square foot of garden about half a pound of produce can be harvested.

In our modernized, "convenient" world, the food that we eat travels an average of 1,500 miles from its origin source to our plates. Theories exist presenting that today's food process of planting, fertilizing, processing, packaging, and transporting not only accelerates our end

cost, but also highly contributes to global warming. According to a survey conducted by the National Gardening Association, the percent of people growing their own fruits and vegetables at home is expected to increase by 19% this season. This means that roughly 37% of all United States homes (43 million families) will raise at least a portion of their own food. The instability of the United States economy is not the only reason why people are turning to gardening. Threats of contaminated fruits and vegetables, a newfound interest in personal health and nutrition, and a way of experiencing a sense of self-reliance and preservation have also been accredited as inspiration for this new gardening trend.



Benner's Gardens Joins in the Garden Trend!

As self-sufficiency and cooperation are quickly become the popular trends, Benner's Gardens is getting caught up in the whirlwind as well. The recent influx of "Recession Gardens" has spurred a fear that these gardens, if not properly protected by the confines of a fence, will be hastily destroyed by hungry deer before they have time to prosper. Benner's Gardens helps out this reputable cause by their willingness to discount and donate sizable quantities of fence to communities all across the United States! Interested?

Call today **1-800-BIG-DEER**



The Rebirth of "Victory"!

During WW2, as the effects of the War began to take its toll on the food and supplies on the Home Front, government inflicted rationing provoked people to look to their own self-sufficiency to discover ways to show their patriotism and contribute to the War effort. Inspired by the efforts of horticulturalist Charles Lathrop Pack who, in 1917, pioneered the concept of "War Gardens" to help the Home Front feed and support the Cause, First Lady Eleanor Roosevelt decided to plant a sizeable garden on the White House lawn. She referred to her effort as a "Victory Garden" because she believed that, through community support and combined patriotic effort, the Home Front could help to "feed the troops to victory". Her insight was proven true when by the end of WWII, these community "Victory Gardens" were supplying 40% of the produce consumed in America!

Now, decades later, the same plot of land that was once tended by First Lady Eleanor Roosevelt, is now being dug up again by a White House First Lady. As Michelle Obama breaks ground and begins preparations for her own "Victory Garden", history is again repeating itself and universal excitement for this endeavor is swiftly spreading. With the fluctuating economy as the primary motivation and the importance of healthy, sound nutrition coming in a close second, Americans are adapting the example of the our First Lady and scrambling to start "Victory Gardens" of their own, dubbing them with the modern name of "Recession Gardens".

Deer Fact!

Pennsylvania farmers suffer crop damage of an estimated \$30 million dollars annually, Wisconsin estimates that it's farmers are hit for an average of \$37 million dollars annually.

A day in the life of a deer... Spring!

As the winter snows melt into the fresh anticipation of spring, the deer slowly begin to revive themselves. Spring-time is a time of relaxation and replenishment for a deer. After a long winter of nibbling on twigs and tree bark, deer now turn their insatiable appetite toward new shoots and buds. Besides the fact that they are greatly enjoyed by the deer, these richly nutritious buds and shoots help the deer to replenish their winter-weakened and, in the case of

many does, pregnant, bodies. The combination of winter hunger and pregnancy create one very hungry deer so, gardens, watch out!!!

Fawns are born in late May or June. As the fawns begin to grow and develop, does suddenly become alert and aggressive. Fawns are frequently left alone when their mothers go out to feed so that they learn independence. Yet, does are very protective of their fawns and as soon as a fawn senses danger, it lets out a

bawl or bleat and the mother will immediately come running. Also, since deer abide to a matriarchal structure, bucks generally do not associate with the does and their offspring.



Yew Trees eaten by Deer



DEER FENCERS

Professional Installation

Tips From the Pro! By Guy Keon

1. **Gates:** For best results, always position the gate on level ground. Gates will always install square to themselves. If the ground slopes, you can end up with a large gap underneath one side of the gate.
2. **Driveway Gates:** When installing driveway gates, make sure to allow concrete to set for at least 24 hours prior to hanging the gate. Construct gate to proper size and the install by hanging the hinge side post first.
3. **Ground Stakes:** Stagger ground stakes along the ground flair to achieve best bond. Place one ground stake where the vertical fence meets the ground and position the next stake toward the edge of the ground flair. Alternate positions with each stake. This maintains optimum ground seal at the base of the fence.

Fresh From the Garden

Deer Candy #3: Apple Trees

Although deer enjoy all varieties of fruit trees, apple trees appear to be the absolute favorite. During the dormant season, deer enjoy feeding on the buds and young twigs of the trees and, during the season of growing, deer enjoy the buds, foliage, young shoots and fruits.

Origins of the apple tree can be traced back thousands of years to the city of Alma-Ata, Kazakhstan. It was introduced in North America by the New England settlers and it quickly became a favorite source of nourishment. Now, primarily grown in the northern hemisphere, the apple tree is a deciduous, flowering, fruit-bearing tree and it is the most widely cultivated of

all fruit trees. A member of the *Malus Domestica Species*, the apple tree grows and produces best in cooler temperatures. Due to the fact that it is extremely poor at self-pollinating, production is affected if it is not surrounded by others of its kind. According to the variety of the tree, the fruit produced can be any color from red to green and range from about the size of a cherry to the size of a grapefruit.



The apple blossom is the State flower of Michigan

If you have any questions or concerns about Benner's Fencing Systems, feel free to contact us anytime!

1-800-BIG-DEER or info@bennersgardens.com

Dog Dish



Best Friend Fence...the sheep solution!

Sheep Farm owner from Verona, Wisconsin discovers Best Friend Fence!

By Max Barth and Lauren Gallagher

Wisconsin sheep farm owner, Martha Maxwell, could not take the frustration anymore! Her high tension wire electric fence was not doing its job and her little pet havanese dog was escaping her property daily!

“Although the high tensile wire was effective in keeping the sheep in, it was proving over and over again that it was not the solution to keep local wildlife out!” Maxwell exclaims, “When my little pet havanese dog figured out how he could sneak underneath the wire and escape, I knew I had to find an alternative fencing solution.” Thus, the search began!

After some detailed research, a frustrated Martha came across an ad for Benner’s Garden’s Virtually Invisible Deer Fencing. She quickly used the ad to find what she referred to as our “fantastic” website and, after familiarizing herself with Benner’s Gardens and Best Friend Fence products, she promptly proceeded to order six hundred feet of our seven and a half foot fence.

Martha installed the fence herself in April of 2008. The process was easy, as she decided that she could simply hang the deer fencing from the existing high-tensile wire on the property. The tool called a

“hogringer”, which Benner’s Gardens offers, was crucially effective in attaching her Best Friend Fence to the high tension wire, and the finished result was a secure enclosure that not only kept her little dog safe, but also kept deer and wildlife from entering her property.

“Installation went well. It was really easy...the fence went up so fast. Installing the fence was not a problem – neither were the dog’s escape efforts, anymore.” The fencing, according to Martha, “turned out to be quite good.” Now, the sheep farm owner from Verona, Wisconsin calls Best Friend Fence the solution to her problems!

Ask Joan!!!!

Call and ask Joan, our *Best Friend* expert, about how to keep your dog safely fenced on your property! She’ll be more than happy to assist you!!

joan@bestfriendfence.com

or call

1-800- 753-4880

www.bestfriendfence.com



Our fence is recyclable!!!

The Talk Around Town

No Time for Lyme (Disease)...reduce the tick count in your yard!

By Max Barth, Edited by Lauren Gallagher

Lyme disease is a bacterial disease caused by the bacterium *Borrelia Burgdorferi*. Usually found in small animals such as mice, squirrels and other rodents, the bacterium is transmitted to other animals and to humans through the bite of certain species of ticks.

Animals and humans alike can suffer from the effects of Lyme’s disease. For dogs, however, the situation can be complicated. Dogs are at greater risk as they may carry ticks that aren’t as easily detected – a dog’s fur can allow ticks to remain hidden. Once a tick has attached itself to a dog, it must re-

main attached for at least 12 hours for the Lyme’s bacteria to be transmitted. Once contracted, Lyme’s can cause damage in a dog’s heart, kidney, joints, and can even cause neurological disorders. If left untreated, Lyme disease in dogs can be fatal. Although various vaccines and deterrents are available to keep dogs from developing Lyme’s, none of these remedies offer a permanent solution. The only way to beat Lyme’s disease is to keep ticks from entering your property. The best way to reduce the tick count on your property and thus reduce the presence of Lyme’s disease is to install



a fence. When considering your fence choices, make sure that you opt to install a fence that will work to keep animal carriers of ticks, such as deer and rodents, out. Such a fence will not only keep the wildlife carriers of ticks off of your property, will also work to protect your garden or plants. A physical barrier will also allow your pet to run free in an area you specify. A sturdy fence is clearly the best way to stop the problem before it starts. Healthy pets and untouched plants are worth the effort.

WE ARE ON THE WEB!!!

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