

Plant Name	Height & Spread	Evergreen or Deciduous	Description	Photo
Non-Dwarf Boxwood <i>Buxus</i>	4-6 feet tall 4-5 feet spread	Evergreen <i>Hardy to minus 10 degrees</i>	Slow-growing, very shapeable shrub with dense dark green or variegated foliage. Insignificant yellow flowers in spring. Many varieties to choose from. Deer rating: 10/10	
Scotch Broom <i>Cytisus</i>	4-6 feet tall 4-6 feet spread	Evergreen *have insignificant leaves. Considered evergreen for dense branches <i>Hardy to minus 5 degrees</i>	Brilliant yellow flowers in spring. Dense, upright green blades in winter. Some are invasive, but we do not sell invasive varieties. Deer rating: 10/10	
Evergreen Barberry <i>Berberis 'Ace Wilsonii', 'Wintergreen', 'William Penn'</i>  	3-5 feet tall 3-5 feet spread	Evergreen <i>Hardy to 0 degrees</i>	Thorny branches. May change colors throughout the year. Bright yellow flowers in spring. Deer rating: 9/10	
Holly Osmanthus <i>Osmanthus heterophyllus</i> 	8-10 feet tall 6-8 feet spread	Evergreen <i>Hardy to 0 degrees</i>	Small, white, fragrant flowers in fall. Holly-like green leaves. Not super dense, may be able to see through a little bit. Deer rating: 9/10	

Pampas Grass <i>Cortaderia selloana</i> 	8-10 feet tall 6-8 feet spread *dwarf variety grows to 5-6 feet tall and spread	Evergreen Hardy to 15-20 degrees	Clumping green grass grows very large. Graceful, fluffy white plumes begin in summer. This grass is very invasive on the CA coast, but not in our colder climate. Deer rating: 10/10	
Emerald Green Arborvitae <i>Thuja occidentalis</i> ‘Smaragd’ 	8-12 feet tall 3-4 feet wide	Evergreen	Moderate-growing, good columnar habit for narrow space. Green foliage may turn bronze in cold of winter. Deer rating: 7/10	
Oleander <i>Nerium</i> 	8-12 feet tall 8-10 feet spread *dwarf varieties grow 2-4 feet tall/wide 	Evergreen Hardy to 15-20 degrees	Red, white, or pink flowers all summer. Drought-tolerant once established. Toxic if ingested. White variety generally grows largest and fastest. Deer rating: 10/10	
Upright Juniper <i>Juniperus</i> ‘Wichita Blue’, ‘Blue Point’, or ‘Spartan’ 	10-15 feet tall 4-6 feet spread	Evergreen Hardy to minus 25 degrees	Broadly pyramidal coniferous shrub/tree with green or silver-blue foliage (depending on variety). Little maintenance – doesn’t require pruning but may grow denser if pruned. Deer rating: 9/10	

Pineapple Guava <i>Feijoa sellowiana</i> 	12-15 feet tall 12-15 feet spread 	Evergreen Hardy to 15-20 degrees	Grey-green leaves similar to olive leaf. Red and white (edible) flowers in early summer. Edible fruit in December. Deer rating: 8/10	
Bamboo <i>Phyllostachys</i> 	15-20 feet tall Spreads continuously if given the chance	Evergreen Hardy to minus 10 degrees	Invasive grass with many varieties to choose from (black, golden, variegated). Best kept in pots to avoid takeover. If planted, will spread indefinitely with underground runners. Deer rating: 8/10	
'Little Gem' Magnolia <i>Magnolia 'Little Gem'</i>	20-25 feet tall 10-15 feet spread	Evergreen Hardy to 15 degrees	Tropical-looking tree with dark green, glossy foliage and compact, narrow form. Very attractive, large, white, fragrant flowers in early summer. Deer rating: 9/10	
'Green Giant' Arborvitae <i>Thuja 'Green Giant'</i> 	30-40 feet tall 12-20 feet spread	Evergreen Hardy to minus 15 degrees	Dense, cedar-like tree with pyramidal shape. Green foliage has gold tinge in winter. Can be left natural or pruned for tighter growth. Deer rating: 7/10	

Deodar Cedar <i>Cedrus deodara</i> 	40-60 feet tall 40-50 feet wide	Evergreen Hardy to 15 degrees	Moderate to fast growing conifer with graceful, drooping branches. Foliage is silvery-green or may even have a touch of blue. Deer rating: 8/10	
Colorado Blue Spruce <i>Picea pungens</i>	50-60 feet tall 15-25 feet spread *dwarf varieties like 'Fat Albert' grow to 15-20 feet tall/wide	Evergreen Hardy to minus 35 degrees	Slow-growing, natural Christmas-tree shape. Attractive silvery-blue foliage. *some Spruce can actually be green. Green ones never becomes blue and blue ones never becomes green. Deer rating: 10/10	



→ this symbol indicates plants that can survive drought once established. It typically takes 1-2 years of regular water for a new plant to be established. In general, plants look better with regular water, but drought-tolerant plants can survive times when water is not available.



→ this symbol indicates plants that are considered fire-wise, meaning that they are more resistant to wildfire due to their growth habits. Plants with this symbol were found online in lists of 'fire safe' plants.

Scroll down for California Native ideas!

Plant Name	Height & Spread	Evergreen or Deciduous	Description	Photo
Eve Case Coffeeberry <i>Rhamnus californica</i> 'Eve Case' 	4-6 feet tall 4-6 feet wide 	Evergreen Hardy to 10 degrees	Dark green leaves are shiny on top side. Small, greenish flower clusters in summer. Large, red berries in fall. Deer rating: 8/10	
Christmas Berry or Toyon <i>Heteromeles arbutifolia</i> 	6-8 feet tall 4-5 feet wide *can grow to 15+ feet tall with time	Evergreen Hardy to minus 5 degrees	Leathery, oval, toothed green leaves. White flowers in summer. Bright red berries in winter. Drought-tolerant once established. Deer rating: 6/10 *protect from deer initially and/or until majority of plant is out of their reach	
Incense Cedar <i>Calocedrus decurrens</i> 	40-60 feet tall 10-20 feet spread	Evergreen Hardy to minus 5 degrees	Green foliage is aromatic when crushed. Drought-tolerant once established. Needs full sun to keep foliage all the way down to base. Deer rating: 8/10	

Giant Sequoia <i>Sequoiadendron gigantea</i> 	70-80 feet tall 20-50 feet spread 	Evergreen Hardy to minus 5 degrees	Largest tree in the world by mass. Drought-tolerant once established. Does best at higher elevations. Needs full sun to keep foliage all the way down to the base. Deer rating: 8/10 
Douglas Fir <i>Pseudotsuga menziesii</i>	70-150 feet tall 20-30 feet spread	Evergreen Hardy to minus 5 degrees	Second-tallest conifer in the world. Soft green foliage, new growth may be lime green. Low water needs once established. Popular cut Christmas tree. Deer rating: 8/10 
Coastal Redwood <i>Sequoia sempervirens</i>	70-200 feet tall 25-80 feet wide <i>*Happiest with regular water</i>	Evergreen Hardy to 15 degrees	Fast-growing. Tallest tree in the world. Native to Santa Cruz area. Keeps foliage all the way to the base regardless of sun exposure. Deer rating: 8/10 