

Plants that tolerate Black Walnut

Black Walnut trees affect the plants around them through a process known as allelopathy. Plants which use allelopathy secrete biochemical substances which inhibit the growth of plants nearby. Black Walnut produces an allelopathic chemical called juglone in high amounts. All parts of the tree contain this toxic substance. In order to have a happy, healthy landscape around your Black Walnut tree these steps should be taken...

1. Clean up leaves and debris from under the tree and compost well. The leaves, twigs, and nuts all have juglone in them.
2. Ensure there is a high level of organic matter always present. Annual compost and mulch will go a long way in improving soils. A high organic matter soil will promote healthier microbial populations which help to metabolize toxic substances. It will also help to drain and leach the soil more quickly.
3. Plant vegetation that is tolerant of Black Walnuts. Below is a list of many of those plants. This list is by no means complete and some plants show conflicting evidence. Soil type has a lot to do with levels of susceptibility of surrounding plants.

Vegetables

Onion, Beets, Squash and Melons, Carrot, Parsnips, Beans, Corn

Vines

Clematis, Virginia Creeper, Wild Grape, Wisteria

Grasses

Tall Fescue, Kentucky Bluegrass

Trees and Shrubs

American Arborvitae, White Ash, Barberry, American Beech, Black and River Birch, Black Cherry, Black Gum, Ohio Buckeye, Catalpa, Eastern Red Cedar, White Cedar, Crabapple, Currant, Daphne, Dogwood, Box Elder, Elderberry, Elm, Forsythia, Fringe Tree, Golden Rain Tree, Globeflower, Hawthorn, Hazlenut, Canadian Hemlock, Hibiscus, Hickory, American Holly, Honeylocust, Honeysuckle, Native Hydrangea, Juniper, Lilac, Black Locust, Maple spp. except Silver, Mockorange, Ninebark, Oak spp., Pawpaw, Callery Pear, Persimmon, Virginia Pine, Privet, Prunus spp., Black Raspberry, Eastern Redbud, Sassafras, Serviceberry, Carolina Silverbell, Spicebush, Norway Spruce, St. Johns Wort, Sumac, Sweetgum, Sycamore, Tulip Tree, Blackhaw, Maple-leaved, Witherod, American Cranberry Bush and Koreanspice Viburnum, Witch Hazel

Herbaceous

Anemone, Aster spp., Astilb, Begonia, Bellflower, Bittersweet, Bloodroot, Virginia Bluebell, Bugleweed, Butterfly Weed, Calendula, Coral Bells, Crocus, Daffodil, Shasta Daisy, Daylily, Dicentra spp., Echinacea, Epimedium, Evening Primrose, Ferns, Hardy Geraniums, Goldenrod, Globeflower, Helianthus spp., Helleborus spp., Hollyhock, Hosta, Hyacinth, Iris spp., Jacob's Ladder, Jack-in-the-pulpit, Lambs' Ear, Liriope, Lobelia spp., Lungwort, May Apple, Meadowrue, Monarda spp., Morning Glory, Mullein, Phlox spp., Primrose, Wild Rose, Rudbeckia, Scilla, Sedum, Snowdrop, Solomon's Seal, Speedwell, Spiderwort, Springbeauty, Sunflower, Sweet Woodruff, Trillium, Tulip, Vernonia spp., Violet, Wisteria, Yarrow, Zinnia

Plants Not Tolerant of Black Walnuts

Alder, Apple, Aronia spp., Asparagus, Azalea, White Birch, Blackberry, Blueberry, Cabbage, Chrysanthemum, Cotoneaster, Autumn Crocus, Cucumber, Eggplant, Forget-Me-Not, Domestic Grape, Hydrangea spp., Lily-Of-The-Valley, Linden, Silver Maple, Mountain Laurel, Peony, Pepper, Pine, Potato, Rhododendron, Thyme, Tomato

