



ROSARIAN REMINDER

Published by
The Tulsa Rose Society
Affiliated with the American Rose Society
August 2011



This Month's Meeting:

Tulsa Garden Center

2435 S Peoria

Tulsa, OK

2:00 PM

August 14, 2011

**“Color in the Rose Garden -
My Journey from Gardener
to Landscape Designer”**

By Carolyn Hayward,
Master Consulting Rosarian

Refreshments

**Everyone bring something to go with
Ice Cream**

Events to Come

**Regular meetings are held at the
Tulsa Garden Center the second Sunday
of each month at 2:00 PM**

Business Meetings are open to all members. Date and
time will be announced at the regular meetings.

Looking forward in 2011:

Aug 14 - Landscaping with Roses

Sept 11 - Rose Photography

October 9 - David Austin Roses

Visit the Tulsa Rose Society website for the full year
of meeting dates after the calendar is established.

ROSE'S RAMBLINGS

It seems we're having a summer that is reminding our zealous meteorologists of 1911, 1980, and perhaps 1936. We're being told that 1911 started out very hot and dry, but became wetter and cooler in August and thereafter. That was not the case in 1980; it was just plain hot! In 1936 we had more days with the temperatures over 100 degrees than in any other year in state records. Of course, we also have a drought. Now we are being threatened with the prospect of rationing in many of the water districts in this area. 2011 just doesn't seem to have been the year of the "rose" for our area yet!

I'm doing my best to keep all my plants and trees watered. Forget the grass; my henbit and bermuda will be back when the rains finally do arrive. Keeping those roses watered is about the best advice I can give you this month, but we can also look forward to a great meeting on August 14. We have a program about landscaping and the rose garden to be presented by Carolyn Hayward, an accomplished landscaper, exhibitor, and judge. We will also indulge in our ice cream social. The ice cream and beverages will be furnished. Please bring cookies or other treats that you feel will embellish our delectable frozen desserts. We'll have a refreshing break from the summer sun, commiserate about the weather, and plan for the more pleasant climatic conditions which lie ahead.

In July we had a lovely picnic with Don and Brenda Johnson. Their garden was really lovely despite our nasty weather last February, the heat this summer, and our lack of rain. I'm certain they will enjoy the refreshing Alaskan climate on their cruise in early August.

We hope to see you all on August 14!

Rose M. Rusnam

Watering Your Roses

[Ronald G. Schwerdt](#), Consulting Rosarian

The key to growing bigger and better roses is maintaining the proper balance in the soil of air, water, and nutrients.

While there are many reasons why your roses did not perform as they should last year, some problems have simple solutions while others are more complex. Many are simple physiological problems, and have no relation to an infectious disease. Many arise from problems with plants environment, such as: too much water or too little water, poor drainage, insufficient soil aeration, or a nutrient deficiency, etc.

To better understand water and its relationship to the soil, you should first understand how plants' roots and stems utilize water in the soil. By implementing changes in the soil's structure, you will allow for better soil drainage and an improvement in the air and soil movement.

Water is one of the most common compounds on earth, profoundly affecting all plant growth, both physically and chemically. The dictionary refers to water as a transparent, odorless, tasteless fluid. To a plant, it is the lifeline of its existence. Water is the means by which fresh air is introduced into the soil, since rainwater contains more oxygen than normal tap water. When the soil contains sufficient oxygen, combined with the proper nutrients, it results in a greater pulling in of moisture by the root system. This abundance of moisture is what puts that crispness in the petals of your finest looking blooms, and substance in the foliage.

A plant's tissue is about 90% to 95% water. With this in mind, it is easy to see that without this vital compound, roses would not exist. While water is considered one of the main resources required to sustain life on the plant, it can also cause some significant changes to take place within the soil that should be addressed. These changes can trigger the start of retro-gradation in a balanced soil.

What happens when water is added to a soil? It forces carbon dioxide out of the soil. The carbon dioxide is generated by the plants roots and soil microorganisms. At the same time, it carries dissolved nutrients to the root zone where they can be absorbed by the fine feeder roots. Even though roots absorb fertilizers from the soil, they do not benefit from it at this time. It is only after fertilizer has gone through the cycle in the leaves (photosynthesis), that roots derive the benefits of the nutrients. This is one of the reasons why a deep soaking once a week is more beneficial than a light sprinkle two or three times a week.

Now that you know how water interacts within the soil, it is easy to understand how a rose bush standing in water because of inadequate drainage will affect that plant's growth. While roses in containers require a large quantity of water, having their roots constantly immersed in water is the best way to kill the plant because it interrupts its supply of oxygen. The ideal situation is to have a soil retain as much water as the soil's texture allows.

This is referred to as "field capacity" and assures sufficient moisture to keep leaves turgid at all times.

What you want is an evenly moist soil, not one that is wet constantly (saturated). It is hard to overwater if there is good drainage. In container grown plants, wet roots are the number one cause of death.

In the soil, water is contained in three forms. One is hygroscopic water. This is water that is chemically tied up by the soil particles. The second form occurs when the soil is watered. The water gradually works its way down, filling the pore spaces with water and air - this is referred to as gravitational water. A soil is said to be at full "field capacity" when all the soil particles are coated with water. This is capillary water and is what the plant uses.

Even though the soil is kept moist with nutrients that are made available, plants can wither if they can't utilize them. One reason for this is the constant and excessive use of chemical fertilizers containing a high concentration of mineral salts, which must be periodically flushed out of the soil. As these salts are leached out of the soil, various nutrients and trace elements are washed out with them. This may cause a deficiency in the soil, and those nutrients will need replacing. A high concentration of salts can draw water and nutrients out of the roots causing a nutrient deficiency that can cause the lower leaves on a bush to fall off, stunted growth and dehydration, etc. This does not mean you must stop, or even reduce your fertilizing program. What this **means** is you must **water before, as well as after a fertilizer is applied**.

Water and a soil's structure go hand and hand. No matter what method is used to water you must have, or condition your soil into, one that is friable and well aerated so it can breathe. The key to watering is not how much you water, but how much moisture the soil is retaining. The more organics incorporated into your soil, the more water the soil will retain. This plays a major role in helping build the foundation for growing healthy plants. The pH of the soil and the pH of the water you use is also extremely important and is one of the determining factors in how well your roses grow.

Soils conditioned for optimum plant growth consist of about 50% soil and 50% pore spaces. These pore spaces between soil particles can be filled with either air or water or a combination. (Continued on page 8)



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Color in the Rose Garden - My Journey from Gardener to Landscape Designer

By Carolyn Hayward, Master Consulting Rosarian

Reading books about color in the garden helped me to develop from a gardener to designer. This may sound farfetched, but this is how I got into the interest of designing my garden and not just putting one plant next to another. From the use of color in my own garden, I learned to use it as an important feature in most of my landscapes for clients as well. Learn how to do it for your own garden if you aren't already or why it might make a space more special.

Carolyn

Landscaping with Roses

The above description for our August program is one that we all should consider. We enjoy our roses but how much more would we enjoy them if we looked at our garden as a landscape rather than just a rose garden. Our roses offer nice color but not all of the time. From the following articles you will also see how incorporating certain companion plants you may also keep your roses healthier without as much spraying.

I have found www.ehow.com to be a pretty good source of information for many different areas. Rose care and landscaping information is only one small area. Remember, as with any source of information, it is general in nature and some information may not be applicable to our part of the country or our garden conditions. Refer to the article below.

Carolyn will show photos that will help illustrate her points and is familiar with the growing conditions in our area. This will be our best program of the year - and to top that off we will have ice cream. You will not find a better way to spend a hot summer afternoon.

John

Roses as Landscape Plants

Roses have been used as landscape plants for hundreds of years. They have existed for centuries and popularized in poetry, paintings and in romantic literature throughout history. Thanks to their perennial nature and fast growth, they are also common as landscape [plants](#). Several different varieties have their place in landscaping designs including shrubs, bushes, climbing varieties and hedge roses.

Rose Gardens

Planting several rose bushes in one location creates a beautiful rose garden. Roses need sunlight and should be planted in an area receiving full sun. They need a minimum of direct sunlight for four to six hours every day. [Plant](#) them approximately 1 to 2 feet apart allowing for growth and proper air circulation. For rose garden design, consider planting all of the same color in one location or mix rose colors that complement one another, such as pale yellow and pale purple varieties or red and orange mixed together.

Trellises

Climbing roses bring drama to any trellis and are useful for creating landscaped entranceways to yards or around benches. Climbing rose varieties reach heights of 8 to 12 feet and typically are very hardy. Plant at least two climbing roses on either side of the trellis or structure. They are self-training and will climb within a few days to weeks. These rose varieties require full sun to thrive.

Shrubs and Hedges

Consider [landscaping](#) an area with hedge roses or a line of rose shrubs as a fence. Planting simplicity roses 6 to 12 inches apart create a thick appearance. These rose hedges produce tiny tea roses throughout the growing season. For larger areas, consider planting rose shrubs such as the Robin Hood variety. These grow to approximately 15 feet in height and fill in quickly. This variety is good for landscaping large areas where abundant color is desired.

Edging for Walkways and Driveways

Use roses to landscape and delineate walkways and driveways on a property. Consider varieties that do not exceed 3 feet in height at maturity and do not require excessive pruning. Miniature rose varieties work well for this type of landscaping. Plant the bushes at least 1 foot apart. For a cohesive landscape edging design, plant rose bushes that are all the same color or rotate colors every other rose bush for more visual drama.

Read more: [Roses as Landscape Plants | eHow.com http://www.ehow.com/info_8077973_roses-landscape-plants.html#ixzz1S6DLM7h5](http://www.ehow.com/info_8077973_roses-landscape-plants.html#ixzz1S6DLM7h5)

How do I Use Roses in Landscape Plans?

Roses are versatile plants that fill almost any need in the landscape. The key to successful [landscaping](#) with roses is to match the type of rose to the situation.

Bush Roses

Bush roses include hybrid teas, Grandifloras, floribundas, patio roses and miniatures. Except for hybrid teas, all of these roses have a full, bushy habit. Use them as you would any flowering shrub. Hybrid teas produce large, long-stem roses and should be planted in groups rather than rows that emphasize their sparse habit. Grandifloras and floribundas are used as foundation plantings, hedges, accents and background [plants](#). Miniature and patio roses make excellent edging plants and also work well in groups in mixed borders or massed in beds.

Specimens and Accents

Any showy rose looks great as a specimen or accent [plant](#). But tree roses steal the show as stand-alone specimens. Tree roses are usually bush-type roses grafted onto tall trunks.

Arbors, Fences and Trellises

Climbing roses need a supporting structure. They bloom continuously and look great along fences, trellises and arbors. Use them to hide unsightly views, on walls and in front of decks and porches. Climbing roses aren't as cold hardy as most other roses and die back during severe winters. When they die back, they won't bloom the next year. Many gardeners substitute rambling roses for climbers. Rambling roses are larger, faster growing and more vigorous than climbers, but they bloom only once a season.

Old Roses

Old or antique roses form a large, mounded shrub that may be 10 feet or more in diameter. Use them as large hedge plants or background plants. They have a short bloom season, but sometimes re-bloom. The dense, rich foliage makes an excellent backdrop for perennials.

Read more: [How do I Use Roses in Landscape Plans? | eHow.com http://www.ehow.com/facts_7150093_do-use-roses-landscape-plans_.html#ixzz1S6Dz09IF](http://www.ehow.com/facts_7150093_do-use-roses-landscape-plans_.html#ixzz1S6Dz09IF)

How to Use Roses as Companion Plants

What garden couldn't use a rose bush or two? Their lovely blooms add so much to any garden, and surprisingly, they make good companion [plants](#), too. Don't be intimidated by roses. They take a little more work than some plants, but they are really worth the effort. Read on to learn how to use roses as companion plants.

Instructions

- 1 [Plant](#) your bareroot roses in the fall, or in the spring in very cold climates. They need to be planted deeply, so that the scar on the stem (where the rose is grafted) is just below the surface of the soil. If you plant them in the fall, make sure you mulch them well and deeply. You can plant roses in containers just about any time during the growing season.
- 2 Know that roses love garlic, leeks, chives, onion and parsley. Parsley protects them from rose beetles, and the onion family plants repel mildew and aphids. Roses do well in a bed of their own, and shrub roses make good hedges and barricades.
- 3 Never plant a new rose bush where an old one has died, the old one could have had diseases that will transfer to the new plant.
- 4 Roses love rich soil and excellent drainage. They need at least six hours of sun per day. Add humus or other organic fertilizer, or water with fish emulsion fertilizer often during the growing season.

Read more: [How to Use Roses as Companion Plants | eHow.com http://www.ehow.com/how_2277830_use-roses-as-companion-plants.html#ixzz1S6Fd408f](http://www.ehow.com/how_2277830_use-roses-as-companion-plants.html#ixzz1S6Fd408f)

Companion Plants That Really Keep Aphids Away From Roses

Companion planting increases biodiversity in your garden, adds color and fragrance where it was lacking and, if done correctly, repels pests naturally. Roses in particular need companion [plants](#) that draw away ravenous aphids. Some of these plants repel aphids while others literally mask the scent of the roses so the aphids move on.

Masking Plants

Thyme, lavender and scented geraniums planted with roses fool aphids by emitting their own distinct volatile oils to mask the rose's scent. The aphids will ignore the roses and look elsewhere. Other companion plants with scents so strong they confuse aphids include oregano, sage, lavender, basil and sweet marjoram.

Repellent Plants

Aphids just don't care for garlic and chives. [Plant](#) small clumps of them under your roses and the aphids should stay away. Other plants that will repel aphids include ornamental allium, basil, edible onions, scented geraniums (Pelargonium), rue (Ruta), feverfew (Tanacetum), parsley (Petroselinum) and thyme (Thymus).

Aphid Enemies

Calendula, poppies, nasturtium, dill, fennel and marigolds attract hoverflies, whose larvae eat aphids.

Other aphid eaters include Hummingbirds and ladybugs, so you'll need plants that attract them. Some hummingbird-friendly plants are Salvia chiapensis (Chiapas sage) and Cuphea lanceolata (bat-faced cup-
hea), while ladybugs love yarrows.

Protection Spray

Companion plants like elder, basil, rhubarb, garlic and wormwood can provide protection from aphids when made into an organic insecticide. Simmer one cup of leaves in four cups of water for an hour. Strain and cool it, then add 1 tsp. of dishwashing detergent. Put the cooled liquid in a spray bottle and spray the rose foliage, especially any tender new growth. It should kill off aphids before they become a problem.

Read more: [Companion Plants That Really Keep Aphids Away From Roses | eHow.com http://www.ehow.com/list_7570376_companion-keep-aphids-away-roses.html#ixzz1S6HWUdSo](http://www.ehow.com/list_7570376_companion-keep-aphids-away-roses.html#ixzz1S6HWUdSo)

Good Companion Plants for Roses

People use companion planting---planting two unrelated crops in the same area---for several reasons. Companion planting can help to give plants mutual benefits. That includes such things as [protection](#) from destructive insects, reduction of disease in plants or helping plants to use soil nutrients more efficiently, according to the North Dakota State University Agriculture and University Extension. You can use companion planting for edible crops, such as potatoes, as well as for flowers, such as roses.

Good Companion Plants for Roses

Marigolds are good companion plants for roses. Marigolds encourage growth and deter pests, including nematodes that damage plant roots. Some of the other good companion plants for roses are not as pretty as marigolds. People often plant members of the Allium family with roses because they offer protection from many pests. Alliums, which include garlic, onions, leeks and chives, might seem like strange things to plant near roses. However, members of the Allium family deter pests, especially aphids. In addition, they reputedly protect roses against black spot and mildew, according to "Companion Planting" by Rodale Press. Some gardeners also plant parsley to repel rose beetles.

While some companion plants repel destructive [insects](#) from roses, others attract beneficial insects. That includes such plants as creeping thyme or sweet alyssum, which do double duty as attractive ground covers under rose bushes while they also attract protective insects, according to Rodale.

Why Companion Plants Are Good

Every year damage and loss result from disease in plants, insect attacks or a plant's inability to utilize the soil nutrients properly. Sometimes rose bushes or potato vines die. Other times, the roses lose their leaves, or fail to produce many blooms, or the blooms are damaged and not attractive. Potato vines can also lose their leaves, and the

potato plant can suffer damage or have stunted growth.

Companion planting helps to limit or even eliminate such damage of losses in rose bushes and potato plants, improves the health of the plants and increases the yield of those plants without the use of chemicals. Therefore, companion planting helps people to grow roses and potatoes organically.

Read more: [Good Companion Plants for Roses & Potatoes | eHow.com http://www.ehow.com/list_6972298_good-companion-plants-roses-potatoes.html#ixzz1S6JeBUGs](http://www.ehow.com/list_6972298_good-companion-plants-roses-potatoes.html#ixzz1S6JeBUGs)

ROSES IN REVIEW

Courtesy of Ed Bradley

For 86 years, the American Rose Society has conducted the Roses-In-Review Program to evaluate special types and classes of roses – mostly varieties that have recently been introduced to the commercial market. The procedures and varieties to be evaluated in 2011 are published in the July-August issue of the *American Rose* magazine. For those who don't get that magazine, instructions and cultivar lists are available on the ARS web site (www.ars.org).

Anyone can be a reporter. Evaluators are asked to provide both a "garden" rating and an "exhibition" rating. We need input from "garden" Rosarians as well as exhibitors, and from new Rosarians as well as experienced Rosarians. Whether you grow 10 or 100 roses, your evaluation is important. All types and classes are included in the cultivar list. The overall results of the evaluations are published in the ARS "*Handbook for Selecting Roses*", which is an excellent source of information for individuals considering purchasing new roses. Evaluations may be done either in paper form or by going to the ARS web site and completing the report there. The electronic form is really simple and very convenient. You evaluate only those roses you grow, that are on the cultivar list.

As a reminder, submission of the RIR evaluation is a mandatory requirement for all active Consulting Rosarians.

The deadline for submitting reports is September 26, 2011.

Not a member of the American Rose Society yet? Complete the following form and mail to the address shown or you can go online at www.ars.org and join for the trial membership.

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(Continued from page 2)

Normally these voids are filled with half air and half water.

As water decreases, air increases. Too much or too little of either can be fatal to the plant.

In the Mid-West, July and August are the months when close attention should be given to the roses and soil. The weather is generally very hot and extremely dry, with not too much rainfall. Using a rain gauge will give some idea on the amount of water the soil received during each rainfall. It is during this period you are thankful that you applied mulch; helping conserve soil moisture. If you don't do anything else during these two months keep the soil moist by regular, deep soakings.

There are many ways to soak the soil. An easy way is to form an 18" ring of soil about 4" high at the base of each plant. If you have hilled up your plant with soil for winter protection, you can re-use this soil. Place the open end of the water hose inside for 5 to 10 minutes and flood the circle. Having enclosed rose beds; I lay the hose in a bed and flood it with 2" to 3" of water, on the average, about once a week. Again, much depends on your soil's structure, thickness of mulch, temperature, and wind velocity, etc. Besides being the cheapest watering system, it's fast and efficient.

You can also use a drip or soaker hose, which will supply 1/3 to 2-1/2 gallons of water per ft. per hr., depending on your water pressure. By adding a water timer, it's now as easy as turning a dial to set the system for the correct amount of time.

When a plant uses up available soil moisture faster than normal, the plant is put under stress; when this happens plants more likely than not attract plant pests and insects. While under this stress, plants that have suffered winter damage that was not noticeable in spring show the damage, resulting in some cane deterioration such as die back.

The same can be said about the foliage on a healthy plant. If it transpires moisture faster than the root system can absorb it from the soil, it will cause brown leaf edges from dead plant cells. All this leads to the number one object in these months. WATER, WATER, WATER.

Flushing the foliage with water early in the day gives the foliage a chance to dry, lessening the chances of diseases developing. Done every two or three days using a strong spray of water, over and under the foliage, will keep the bushes free of most plant pests. When spraying, adjust the setting so it produces a fine mist which will adhere to the foliage, rather than large droplets that roll off the leaves.

A rose bush needs one inch of water per week. Will this water reach the root zone where it can be utilized? This depends upon the soil structure. In a sandy soil one inch of water will penetrate about 12", in a medium loam about 7", and in a clay soil about 5". All things being equal, your success in growing roses will be in direct proportion to the quantity of water in the soil that reaches the root zone.

How many gallons of water is this, and how long will it take to deliver one inch of water for a 200 sq. ft. rose bed? First you must know the water flow from your hose. A simple way to do this is to place your water hose into a container and measure the amount of water in the container after one minute, with no water being diverted elsewhere. Or you can use an in-line meter. For practical purposes, let's say the rate of water flow is 4 gallons per min.

Known Factors:

- 1- One inch of water = 28,000 gallons of water per acre or (43,560 sq. ft.)
- 2- The rate of water flow is 4 gallons per min.
- 3- The area to receive one-inch of water is 200 sq. ft.

Unknown Factors:

- 1- The amount of time required applying one inch of water.
 - 2- The amount of water being used.
- 200 sq. ft. x 28,000 gallons per acre = 5,600,000 gallons
 5,600,000 gallons / 43,560 = 128.55 gallons of water used.
 128 gallons / 4 gallons per hour = 32 min. per one inch of water.

In conclusion

Having read this article, you cannot help but realize that water is the essence of life for a plant. It plays the dominating role in all functions of a plant's existence, at present and in future years. There is a parallel to this point; that was addressed in an article written on soil nutrients, which seems appropriate: "When asked about all the men in her life", Mae West eloquently replied, "... Honey, it isn't the men in my life, it's the life in the men". This same ideology applies to water and a plant's survival. Repeated many times over ... if you don't do anything but water your plants they can survive, but without water they will die.

What to Do in August

1. Water - Water Not only are we 10 inches below average in rainfall but we are setting record temperatures with many days over 100 degrees.
2. Maintain your mulch. If you keep 3 or more inches of mulch your moisture will be retained even with the heat and grass and weeds are much easier to control. Pine straw, pine bark mulch, hardwood mulch, cotton burr compost and grass clippings can be used. Use what is easiest for you to obtain at a reasonable cost.
3. Maintain your spray program. It is best to water your roses before spraying so they do not overdose on your chemicals. Black spot is still a problem even with our dry weather.
4. Deadheading and pruning for show. Both are necessary to keep your roses blooming either for your enjoyment or to develop the "show quality" blooms for our fall show. Grooming your bush to keep it in the rose bed and to keep the center open for good air circulation is something you should do year around but it is more important in getting your roses ready for their show blooms.
5. Feeding should be continued but not heavily. Water soluble fertilizer or liquid feeds such as Easy Feed or fish emulsion are easy to apply. You might even try a batch of alfalfa tea. The roses should be watered adequately before feeding them. You can also use granular fertilizer but use caution not to get too much in one spot that will cause a chemical burn to the rose.
6. Watch for mites and insects. Spider mites enjoy the hot dry weather. A good dousing with the water wand will discourage them. Repeat several days in a row so the mites learn you are serious about them leaving. You will want to watch for thrips and aphids as your show blooms begin to appear. Treat as necessary.
7. Take care of yourself. Work early in the morning or in the evening to avoid the heat of the day. Drink lots of water to keep your body hydrated.

The Rosarian Reminder is published monthly by the Tulsa Rose Society. Submit information and articles to John Carter, Editor at 1825 West Lincoln St, Broken Arrow, OK 74012-8509 or via email at editor@tulsarosesociety.org or call 918-355-8020.

Newsletters are mailed to Tulsa Rose Society members. Memberships are \$20 for individuals or families. Membership benefits include the newsletter, group purchases of roses and rose care products and support from an active organization.

Your Club officers for 2011 are:

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 Butch Neumeier (Claremore) 342-2885
 Alice Klein (Collinsville) 371-2540

Meetings are normally held at the Tulsa Garden Center at 2 PM on the second Sunday of each month. Monthly business meeting is the first Wednesday of every month at the Tulsa Garden center at 10:00 AM. Everyone is welcome. Visit our website at www.tulsarosesociety.org.



Color in the rose garden in March - Jonquils.

Be sure to attend our August meeting to learn how you can add color to your garden.

Tulsa Rose Society
1825 W Lincoln St
Broken Arrow, OK 74012-8509

First Class Mail



How do you like your Ice Cream?

Don't miss our Ice Cream Social following our program on Sunday, August 14, 2011 at 2:00 PM. Bring your favorite topping or cookie to go with it.