

Rose Care for the Fall by Cindy

A few chores for your roses in the Fall will ensure healthy shrubs with lots of flowers.

1. Cut off soggy, shriveled rose flowers. If the shrub makes good rose hips, remove the petals.
2. Remove any remaining foliage that is diseased. Don't compost these leaves.
3. Transplant any roses bushes that are in the wrong place. i.e. too much shade, on the north side of a house, too dry or too wet.
4. Do a light pruning, of dead, diseased or damaged branches.
5. Reduce the length of stems of tall roses to prevent wind rock during wind storms.

Chores for October

1. Not too late to plant spring bulbs
2. Dig up cannas to avoid frost damage
3. Good time to plant evergreen shrubs and conifers
4. Plant up pots with winter color
5. Transplant deciduous shrubs that have outgrown their current home.
6. Collect seeds from hardy perennials, and take hardwood cuttings
7. Reduce height of shrub roses to avoid windrock
8. Empty summer pots and hanging baskets
9. Sow green manure (red clover or winter rye) in empty beds
10. Go on regular snail hunt in wet weather or in the evening
11. Cut down autumn fruiting raspberries
12. Rake up fallen leaves to make leaf mould.