

# HOLIDAY GUIDE TO ROSE CARE

By Jan Burnham, Consulting Rosarian

Although there are lots of “what to do in the garden each month” guides, sometimes I forget what to do when and where to find those all-so-helpful guides, so I have tied rose care (and many other gardening activities) to specific holidays. While it is not crucial to do the activity on precisely the holiday, I have found it useful to complete it near that specific holiday. A bonus was that before I retired, I often had the holiday off from work, giving me the time to enjoy gardening activities that day.

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| <b>New Years' Day</b><br><br>Prune, General Garden Cleanup            | <b>Valentine's Day</b><br><br>Finish Pruning,<br>Apply Dormant Spray,<br>Plant/Move                       | <b>St. Patrick's Day</b><br><br>Apply Alfalfa Pellets Or<br>Other Nitrogen Rich Food                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               | <b>April Fool's Day</b><br><br>Check For Insects And<br>Disease, Start Watering<br>Regime As Needed |
| <b>Memorial Day</b><br><br>Deadhead, Fertilize,<br>Watch for Disease | <b>Fourth of July</b><br><br>Give Them An Extra<br>Drink Of Water, Mulch                                | <b>Labor Day</b><br><br>Deadhead, Fertilize                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       | <b>Halloween</b><br><br>Stop Deadheading, Allow<br>Dormancy To Set In                              |
| <b>Thanksgiving</b><br><br>Garden Cleanup,<br>Enjoy Last Blooms     | <b>Christmas</b><br><br>Evaluate Your Rose Garden:<br>Decide What Stays, What<br>Goes, And What Arrives | Of course, one does not just go out in the garden on these holidays, but walks the garden almost daily, checking for the <u>GOOD</u> (beautiful blooms, new basal canes, healthy foliage, beneficial insects), the <u>BAD</u> (destructive insects), the <u>UGLY</u> (black spot and mildew), cutting blooms to bring inside, deadheading to produce new blooms, using cultural, mechanical, biological, or chemical insect and disease controls. Be sure to stop and smell the roses and appreciate the beautiful world around you. |                                                                                                                                                                                        |