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D the G -- September 2013

Well here it is, the time of year that rose lovers look forward to—summer's end. This is a good time of year to: feed the roses, do a light summer pruning to have the roses ready for the upcoming fall Rose Shows, make sure that the watering system is working well, make sure that the roses have a layer of mulch, check for diseases and insects, and pick a bouquet to share and/or to enjoy for yourself. Also, be ready to shovel prune roses that do not do well in your garden. Be ready to plant roses that catch your interest. Many offerings of new roses are made available to try each year. Also, consider planting a rose that has been available for a number of years. There are a great many of older varieties that are absolutely splendid and should be enjoyed. I make it a point to make the offer of including an older variety in all of the rose gardens that I install.

The weather this summer has followed the absolutely fickle nature of the Los Angeles area. The beginning of summer was cooler than usual, and last week was certainly to the warm side of normal. Because the temperatures have soared, it is common to see patches of sunburn on the leaves of many plants. A 25 degree increase difference has an effect. Last week the temperatures in the west San Fernando Valley were in the low 100's. Last week I was working in Pacific Palisades, it was in the low 80's. I would love to be able to buy a home open to the coastal influence and other fantasies. Remember to have a look at the [Rainfall Chart](#) that is attached to this SFVRS Newsletter. The rainfall in Los Angeles ranges between 3 ½ inches to about 40 inches per year. Temperatures follow their own path. The last time that there was a freeze in L.A. was in 2007.

Be ready for a beautiful "fall into early winter" flowering of roses. My bushes and the bushes of most of my clients are showing signs of new growth and buds; get the vases ready. A large bouquet is as easy as having lovely blooms to enjoy and doing a preemptive deadheading.

Spring is just around the corner. Well, at least, L.A. style. Spring time in New York state is in April or May, after the snows melt. It's when pansies, snapdragons, lettuces, dill, etc. are available. Spring time in L.A. is when the heat of summer has passed. The nurseries are beginning to offer pansies, etc. I have planted a few, as a test, along the coast. I recommend holding off planting cool season flowers and vegetables until the heat of summer has really passed for the year.

Have any question relating to the garden. Please contact me and I will send an answer.

Best to you, Happy Gardening,

D the G
[Dave's Greenscapes](#)

Rose Observation

I witnessed Sunset
carefully tucking
Rose away,
Preparing Sunrise to
paint yet another
day--,
Placing Rose's beauty
on display.

-- Russell A. Baum