

# GARDEN AND LANDSCAPE

"A weed is a plant that has mastered every skill except for learning how to grow in rows." *Doug Larson*



## IN THIS ISSUE

### News from the garden

September has really been killing it with its superb weather!! Half the month is over all ready and it's been in the 80's for most of it. This got me thinking about ways I could save on the water bill and still keep my flowers and garden looking fresh and hydrated.

### Keeping the yard looking well!

This summer I invested in a rain barrel to help me save water and keep my garden looking great. Mindful that water is precious, I bought a 50-gallon water barrel to capture rain when it comes. *I must admit though, it has only rained two times since I got the barrel hahaha, but I know more is coming so I know my investment will pay off!* I strategically placed it on the opposite side of the house from where the outside faucet and hose is so that I can draw water from it to water the plants on that side of the yard without having to unwind the whole of my hose to try to reach this area.

Another thing I did was fill up my watering cans as soon as it rained so that the barrel could collect more water. I put the cans on the porch, so the bugs and flies don't get into it. I reused some of the 5-gallon water bottles I have for my drinking water to fill up as well so on dry spells, I have enough water from the collected rain to water the garden.

# News from the garden

By Lauren M.

Now onto this month's flower talk. I can't help it, but when I look at my yard, I see lots of beautiful roses in bloom! The fruits of my labor from the past year and a half, when I planted, the roses are coming to full-bloom fruition – and the best part is they are all blooming at the same time this year, which is what I was hoping for and which makes for an exceptionally beautiful front and back yard!



I love roses because they are pretty to look at, smell great, and really add a wonderful array of color and bloom to the yard. Some of the things I have done in my garden is to pair roses up and to mix in an assortment of perennials and annuals around them. One of my best bloomers is the Knockout Reds that I got from a friend as a house warming gift. At the time I planted it, it was only in a 1-gallon container. Now it is also three feet wide and four feet tall! It is usually the first to bloom of all the roses and the last to stop blooming!



Although you can't see it in this picture, to the right and left of this rose bush are my 'Princess Charlene of Monaco' roses. These are what are in the trellises. In front of this is a small black iron fence (like two panels and three posts), with orange dahlias, red, orange and yellow coneflowers, and a small white-blossom 'Rose of Sharon' tree.



And in case you are wondering what my favorite rose is, well that would be my 'Walking on Sunshine' rose from [Jackson and Perkins](#). My grandfather always loved yellow roses too. I think I like them because they give me a challenge in that they seem more delicate to Maine winters and need a little more care to keep them coming back year after year. This is why I especially like this rose because it is a hardier stock and every time I look at it I feel it is bursting with sunshine, which makes my heart happy!!! Until next time—Happy Gardening!!

Website Resources: (All links link to external websites)

- [Jackson & Perkins](#) (The place most of my roses come from!)
- [Rose bush care: a beginner's guide to growing roses](#)
- [Caring for roses: the ultimate guide for proven winners](#)
- [Landscaping with roses: 8 techniques to try](#)
- [15 stunning rose garden ideas & design tips](#)

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Extra bonus: I always knew bananas were good for roses. I toss the peels around my smaller bushes to give them some extra growing nutrients. I found this tip From [lifehackguru.com](#) (Go to Tip #98 toward bottom of the page: **(98. Plant Bananas in Your Garden and Just Watch)**) which gives me another great use for my bananas, besides the compost bin!