

WINTERIZING ROSES by TERESA MOSHER

- Choose hardy roses and plant them properly
- Do not apply granular fertilizer after August.
- Liquid fertilizers can be used into September.
- Continue to water your roses into Fall.
- Don't deadhead your roses after late September, so they can harden off before Winter.
- You can spray your roses and the surrounding soil, mulch with fungicide or horticultural oil.
- Once the temperature has consistently stayed around **freezing** for 3-4 days, you can prune and start preparing to winterize your roses.
- Wait until most or all the leaves fall, and the canes turn a bit off-color.
- Tying the rose canes with strong twine, bungee cords or electrical tape will keep them from blowing in the wind.
- Mound with compost or mulch. **Do not** take away from the plants, add new mulch or compost.
- Mound up 8" or so around the rose. **Do not** take it from around the rose plant.
- Uncover your roses that you have covered in the spring. Make a saucer effect around the rose bush with the mulch.
- **Your roses will reward you with healthy canes and lots of blooms!**