

# YOUR GARDEN

## Spring Is Bare-Root Rose Planting Time

(NAPSA)—A beautiful rose garden takes time, energy and a little advice along the way.

According to Robert Dolezal, author of Black & Decker's *Landscaping with Roses* (Creative Publishing International, \$16.95), spring is a terrific time to begin planting roses.

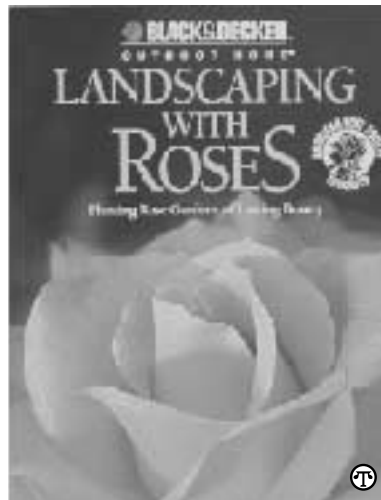
"Plant roses as soon as the ground becomes workable," he says. "Bare-root roses are dormant now, so they will grow quickly. In a matter of six to eight weeks, you'll have beautiful blooms."

Bare-root roses are a highly economical option for a beginning rose gardener. The flowers adapt quickly to the garden's soil and results are more easily achieved. Plus, you can choose from many trouble-free varieties.

"Modern roses are remarkably tough, disease-resistant and free of pests," adds Dolezal. "I planted 'Knock Out' shrub roses in my garden last year and had nonstop flowers all season long."

He recommends that gardeners plant bare-root roses using the following process:

- Unwrap and soak the plant's roots for 48 hours.
- Dig a hole 24 inches wide, 18-24 inches deep. Make the hole's bottom wider than its top. Add well-rotted steer manure to the bottom of the hole, mixing it into the soil. Build a cone-shaped mound six inches high at the bottom of the hole.
- Fan the rose's roots over the cone. The bud union graft should



**A new landscaping book provides step-by-step instructions for planting and maintaining a beautiful rose garden.**

be one to two inches above the soil in mild climates, one to two inches below in cold-winter climates. Backfill the hole with native soil. Firm it with your open palms.

- Water daily for the first 10 days, weekly thereafter.

"If you follow these simple steps," says Dolezal, "your roses will be off to a good start and they'll give you years of pleasure."

For complete, accurate information about planting, growing and caring for your roses, refer to the book *Landscaping with Roses*. It's available at bookstores, or you can check it out, along with other landscape and gardening books at [www.howtobookstore.com](http://www.howtobookstore.com).