

# JUNE'S GARDEN

My feet are planted deep in the soil where the wild, wild roses grow.

- Author: Unknown

Along the roadsides and sandy dunes of Cape Cod, Massachusetts National Seashore, *rosa rugosa* grows wild. In the summer the bushes are covered with pink and white blossoms. In the fall the flowers develop bright red fruit the color and shape similar to a ripe cherry tomato. In fact, one of the common names used for these roses is "Sea Tomato". The fruit is edible but seedy; sometimes it is used for preserves. They are hardy shrubs with thorny stems, that withstand wind, drought, freezes and salt spray from the ocean.

The legend, according to Mike Whitley, Park Ranger in Cape Cod, Massachusetts, is that the first plants were washed ashore from a shipwreck. There is no recorded date when the *rosa rugosa* first took root on the eastern shores, but they were protected and left to grow and have become an important part of Cape Cod's history.

There are two types of rambling roses that grow in our northwest beach towns. There also is no recorded date when the first rose was planted, but they've been growing here as long as anyone can remember. In some places they too have been allowed to grow wild, but usually are found growing beside the older cottages. One has a double petaled pink flower, the other a deeper colored pink single wild-rose-like blossom. During July and August their trailing vines produce 15 to 20 flowers per stem. They are hardy and withstand salt air, wind and our occasional freezes. They thrive without care or favorable weather conditions; but because of their vigorous growth, they do need pruning. They perform best with a provided support.



My children planted two of the double rose plants, providing trellises for them to climb over the roof of their garage. Last summer the garage roof was covered with their pink blossoms. The most predictable word in the English language is change, and our coastal towns, since the first rambling roses were planted, have seen many changes. The older cottages have been torn down to make way for large new homes where little space is left for a garden. The small auto courts' individual cabins were heated by wood cook-stoves or rock fireplaces, and families would rent these inexpensively for summer vacations. They have been replaced by expensive, two- or three-story supermotels with all the amenities of home away from home. The lighthouses that used to cast circled beams of light, their lonely wail of foghorns mingling with the call of the seagulls and roar of the ocean, have been replaced by large, unmanned buoys that dictate the channels and provide navigational aid. Freeways are being planned to bypass beach towns because of dense summer traffic. A leisurely trip along the coastline to see the ocean between stands of trees soon may be a thing of the past.

Trinket shops now sell souvenir shells from foreign shores rather than North Coast seashells children gathered to sell for a few pennies. The five and dime variety stores, Mom and Pop grocery and butcher shops where everybody knew each other by their first name, in some towns are being replaced by chain grocery stores with clerks who only have time to question a check identification or hurry you on to help the next in line. Small cafes where you knew that "Mary's" clam chowder was made from local clams, or Friday's "blue-plate special" fish was caught by the local fisherman that morning... may now use canned clams or frozen fish from other, far-off shores. Jogging has taken the place of beachcombing... bonfires may be built with firewood from the supermarket... but the "Beach Roses" are still here. Their roots grow deep in the ground. They are the remaining survivors.

Dennis Saulsbury, owner of Raintree Nursery located on Hwy. 26 near Seaside, Oregon, identified the double flowered Brambler. The name of the rose is "Dorothy Perkins". It was introduced in 1901. The parent plants of the hybrid were *wichuraiana* (a brambler) and "Mme. Lesizet". These roses can be started from a cutting. Western Sunset Garden Book describes in detail how to start plants from stem cuttings.

Next year, Holland's Flowers will have some of these roses for sale. For further information, write to: Holland's Flowers, P.O. Box 132, Cannon Beach, Oregon, 97110.

September: the month to buy spring-blooming bulbs. These bulbs should be planted no later than the last of October.

When buying tulip bulbs, look for "Perennial Tulips". These will provide up to five years of splendid bloom. The more exotic hybrids like Parrot or "double-flowered" do not bloom as well after the first year, but they are beautiful grouped together in a large pot. In the garden I plant the Perennial Tulip strain, along with Muscari (Grape Hyacinths), Crocus, Anemone (Wind Flowers), Scilla (Wood Hyacinth), daffodils and narcissus.

There are many daffodils and narcissus to choose from that give year-after-year performance. Many varieties are called "naturalizers", and some have a strong fragrance. To naturalize means these bulbs can be left in place to spread or re-seed themselves.

A few that have performed in my garden for several years are: Thalia, a white daffodil, sweet-scented and late flowering, with more than one bloom to a stem. King Alfred, the grand-daddy of yellow trumpets -- a vigorous variety. A white trumpet daffodil that is tried and true is Mt. Hood. Actaea, commonly called Pheasant's Eye, is a narcissus that is fragrant and can take our damp spring weather. Actaea bears tiny yellow cups, edged red, that stand out like eyes against the pure white petals.

To ensure a healthy plant, fertilize with bulb booster when planted, and top-dress annually with the same for continued success.

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# WILDLIFE ON THE EDGE

SEPTEMBER 1995



The widening swath of missing trees in the hills around Cannon Beach means shrinking rural space for much local wildlife. Frightened by new rumbles and voices, many animals will back-bewildered across the highway and into town, encountering more dilemmas.



Already this summer has seen the unlikely sight of a frantic Black Bear, galloping scared off the S curves in Tolovana.



The number of Raccoons and Coyotes in town is likely to be higher than usual this winter.

The also increasing wheeled traffic year-round does not bode well for any of these (for many) more welcome visitors.

The Edge brakes for four-legged Pedestrians.



Our giant Wapiti, traditionally just a fall and winter local, barely moved to the outskirts of town this spring.



And one morning last month a young White-Tailed Deer above Haystack Rock off Hemlock St, informed Rev. Billy of her opinion of the situation.

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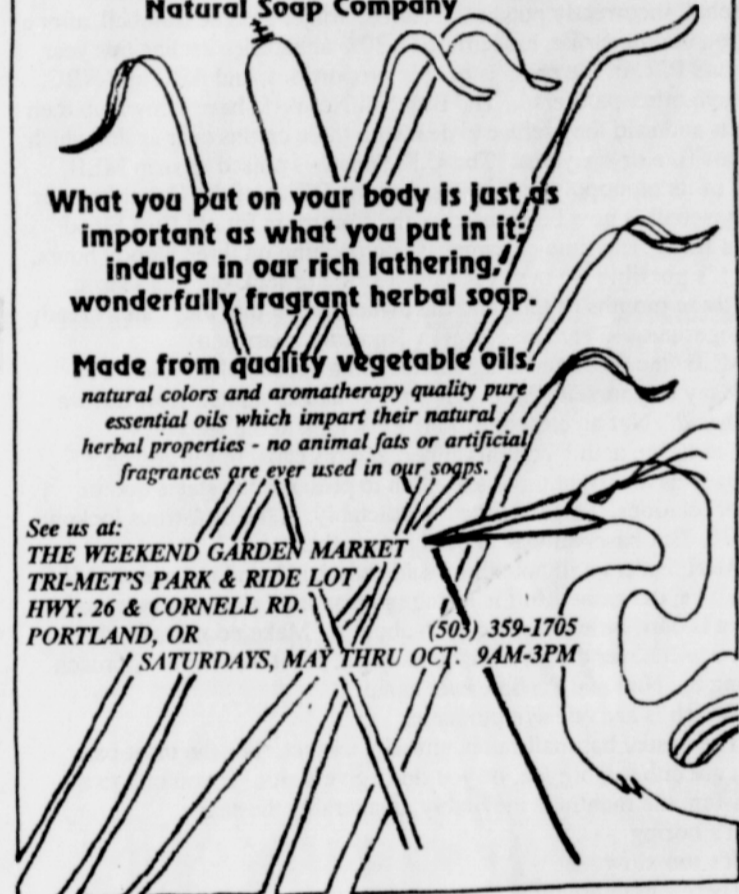
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HWY. 26 & CORNELL RD.  
PORTLAND, OR (503) 359-1705  
SATURDAYS, MAY THRU OCT. 9AM-3PM



Protecting Forest Watersheds from Harmful Pesticides

A Talk By

Norma Grier

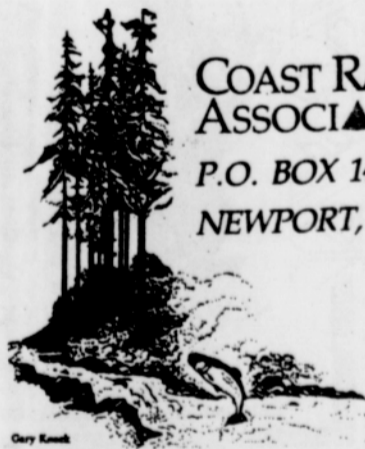
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Cannon Beach Chamber of Commerce Building  
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AVAILABLE AT OSBURN'S GROCERY

Whenever I buy bulbs of any kind, I buy at least three or more, and plant them in groups. The correct planting depth is important. Too shallow a depth invites winter damage.

There are some lilies that can be planted in the fall. A few varieties are available at your local nursery stores. B&D Lilies, 330 "P" St., Port Townsend, Washington, 98368, catalog has an extensive list of lilies. The catalog also gives information of proper planting and care. They offer Oriental Hybrids, Trumpets, Aurelians, Asiatic Hybrids, and Liliun Species. Lilies are easily grown in our coastal weather as long as they are planted in an area that provides good drainage. B&D Lilies harvest and process mid-October; however, it is wise to place an order during September or early in October, as some of the varieties are in great demand.

Please send your gardening experiences, comments or corrections to:

June's Garden  
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