

*Mike Parker* Landscape Management

"We don't just maintain your landscape, we *manage* it for you"



**Why are you pruning my Roses?**

**... there are still blooms.**

Pruning removes dead wood and old canes that produce a profusion of twigs but few blooms. Pruning removes suckers that grow from the rootstock - these suckers produce leaves that look very different than the foliage of the rest of the plant and even become dominant if left to grow. Pruning of weak plants can stimulate new vigorous growth and pruning of strong plants will produce even more buds come spring.

Pruning is called "**Heavy**" when the plant is cut back to 3 - 5 canes, each 6 to 10 inches tall. This produces fewer, showier blooms.

**"Moderate"** pruning leaves 5 - 12 canes, 18 to 24 inches tall, and results in a larger shrub with many blooms. Pruning that falls into the **"Light"** category removes less than a third of the plant and produces a profusion of smaller, short-stemmed blooms on larger plants.

**Modern Roses:** those that produce blooms on new wood - should be pruned before the rose-bush breaks dormancy for the next years growth. In our area, January is a good time - even if there are still a few of this year's blooms remaining.

**Old Roses:** those varieties that produce their flowers on wood produced the previous years are trimmed differently. These are pruned only after they have produced their single bloom cycle in Spring or Summer.

**Climbing Roses:** while all climbers are pruned to fit the place where they are growing, those that bloom once a year are treated to a pruning after they bloom while those that continuously bloom are pruned in early Spring, while dormant.

*What's "Growing On" for January and February*

- Plant bare root Trees, Roses, Camellias and Azaleas.
- Prune back Roses for Winter dormancy period.
- End fertilization except for lawns, citrus and annual color until spring.
- Reduce mowing of all warm season and some cool season lawns.
- Spray roses, fruit and birch trees with oil to prevent overwintering of pests.
- Clean up all leaves and debris, finish pruning trees and shrubs, stay out of saturated beds to prevent soil compaction.
- Cut back all perennials and remove spent Summer annuals.
- Cultivate compacted soil and add top dressing of mulch.





## Aloes for the Winter Garden



Looking for something new to add color and texture to your winter garden? Aloes are an easy and interesting alternative. Available in a wide variety of sizes with clusters of red, orange, yellow or cream flowers, they are showy and easy to grow in relatively frost-free areas such as our Coastal regions.



## It's not too soon to start planning for your Spring color ...

Selections will be available in mid February to begin planting from color packs and four inch containers. Annual color takes a full six weeks to establish in the garden so plant early and get the most out of it. With Easter just around the corner planning now will guarantee a beautiful show for all to enjoy.

Call or E-mail to set up a walk-through to discuss ideas to make your landscape interesting for Spring.

Don't forget if you are having a special event and want everything to "pop" in time, let us know. We can help set a timeline for your special day.

**(714) 545-1717 or (949) 497-1717**

**customerservie@mikeparkerlandscape.com**



*Lepiota sp*

The Common mushroom found in lawns after the rain .

## Mushrooms and Other Lawn Fungi

Mushrooms also called "toadstools" are the reproductive structure of under ground fungi.

Most fungi in the lawn are beneficial because they decompose organic matter releasing nutrients for your lawn to take up.

Mushrooms are most likely to appear in your lawn following a few days of rain which had been preceded by weeks of dry weather or after prolonged periods of rain.

Removing the mushrooms soon after they appear will improve the lawns appearance and keep them away from your children; as well as prevent a release of new spores. But since removing Mushrooms does not kill the underground fungal filaments from which they are growing, they may re-appear seemingly overnight.

**Remember!!!  
These mushrooms are  
NOT SAFE FOR  
CONSUMPTION.**



The curious **Bird's Nest fungi.**

The "eggs" contain the spores. These are usually found in groups



*Conocybe sp.*

These small light colored mushrooms have smooth heads and thin stalks. These are also commonly seen during the establishment of newly laid sod.



*Panaeolus foenisecii*

Another species of mushroom seen commonly after the rains or in a newly laid sod. They are slender stemmed, brown colored and conical shaped.