

# Earth Kind:

## Environmental Stewardship Program

### Earth Kind Roses:

Earth Kind is an important designation given to select roses by the Texas A&M University Agriculture program. Earth Kind Roses have been through rigorous state-wide testing and evaluation by a team of horticultural experts and found to possess the high level of landscape performance and outstanding disease and insect tolerance/resistance required to for this special designation.



Earth Kind Roses are among the most thoroughly tested, and environmentally responsible plants for the use in Texas landscapes. These roses do very well in almost any soil type, from the well-drained acid sands of East Texas to the poorly aerated, highly alkaline clays of central and Southwest Texas.

Earth Kind roses are certainly not immune to pest problems. However, their tolerance to pests is so great that they rarely require the use of chemical pesticides.

#### Growing Tips for Earth Kind Roses:

For these roses to be as carefree as promised, it is crucial that they receive the following basic care:

#### Planting Site:

Be planted in locations where they receive direct sunlight for eight hours or more each day.

Have good air movement over their leaves (i.e. do not plant in enclosed areas like courtyards or small backyards which are ringed by 8' fences).

Are not being sprinkler irrigated during the evening hours or at night.

Remember, fungi will walk fifty miles to infect wet leaves at night!

#### Bed Preparation:

Roses really respond to well-drained soils. Thus, here are the bed preparation recommendations for the three major soil types:

Sandy and loam soils: Incorporate 3-6 inches of organic matter such as compost.

Earth Kind uses research-proven techniques to provide maximum gardening and landscape enjoyment while preserving and protecting our environment.

The objective of Earth Kind is to combine the best of organic and traditional gardening and landscaping principles to create a new horticultural system based on real-world effectiveness and environmental responsibility.

The principal goals of Earth Kind include:

- Water conservation
- The safe use and handling of fertilizers & pesticides
- Reduction of yard wastes entering urban landfills

As your interest and knowledge in these areas grows you will have an increased awareness of the many programs, practices and activities that are Earth Kind. Working together we can make a difference in conserving and protecting our valuable natural resources.

*For more information  
see our Web site:*

**EarthKind.tamu.edu**



Clay soils: Incorporate 3 inches of organic matter (e.g. compost) and 3 inches of expanded shale. Plant on raised beds that are at least 4-6 inches above the surrounding soil.



### Fertilization:

Roses also like high levels of fertility, especially nitrogen.

Thus, they need to be fertilized in March, June and lightly in late August.

Base your selection of fertilizer analysis on the results of a soil test.

For the March and June feedings, utilize fertilizers in which at least half of the nitrogen is in the slow release or slowly available form. In late August, apply fertilizers in which the nitrogen is readily available.

### Maintenance:

Regardless of soil type, roses need to be protected year-round with a layer of organic mulch (e.g. cypress bark, tree leaves) 3-4 inches thick.

In areas of the state plagued by salty irrigation water, it is very important to drip irrigate roses. Salty water applied to the leaves can burn the foliage badly.



Following is a current list of rose cultivars with the Earth Kind designation.

Cultivar Name	Blossom Color	Blossom & Fragrance	Blooming Period	Mature Ht x Wd (ft)	Rose Category
<b>DWARF SHRUBS</b>					
Marie Daly	Pink	Semi-Double (fragrant)	April-Nov	3'-4' x 3'-4'	Polyantha
The Fairy	Light Pink	Double	April-Nov	2'-4' x 4'	Polyantha
<b>SMALL SHRUBS</b>					
Caldwell Pink	Lilac Pink	Double	May-Nov	3'-4' x 3'	Found
Knock Out	Cherry Red	Semi-Double	April-Nov	3'-4' x 3'-4'	Shrub
Perle d'Or	Peach	Pompon (Fragrant)	April-Nov	3'-6' x 3'	Polyantha
<b>MEDIUM SHRUBS</b>					
Belinda's Dream	Pink	Double (fragrant)	April-Nov	3'-6' x 3'-4'	Shrub
Else Poulsen	Pink	Semi-Double (fragrant)	April-Nov	3'-5' x 3'-4'	Floribunda
Katy Road Pink*	Pink	Semi-Double (fragrant)	April-Nov	4'-5' x 4'-5'	Shrub
Duchesse de Brabant	Rose Pink	Very Full (fragrant)	April-Nov	4'-6' x 4'	Tea
Spice	Blush Pink	Double (very)	April-Nov	3'-5' x 3'x4	China
<b>LARGE SHRUBS</b>					
Mutabilis	Yellow/Red/Orange	Single (some)	April-Nov	4'-10' x 6'	China
<b>MANNERLY CLIMBERS</b>					
Cl. Pinkie	Rose Pink	Semi-Double (fragrant)	April-Nov	8'-12' x 6'	Cl. Polyantha
Sea Foam	Creamy White	Double (fragrant)	April-Nov	2'-8' x 4'	Shrub

\*Carefree Beauty