

## Garden Event

12-10-20, 7:15pm, Online Zoom Webinar, Mission Impossible – Growing Roses Organically with Steve Gerischer

Description = The Southern California Horticultural Society welcomes Steve Gerischer, who will be speaking about methods for growing roses using organic gardening practices. His program will focus on the procedures he has found to work best in Southern California gardens in the 30+ years he's been growing roses without using chemical fertilizers and pesticides. Gerischer has gardened in Southern California all his life. He started his professional horticultural career at Smith & Hawken, and then worked at Hortus Nursery in Pasadena until it closed, where he was in charge of ordering bare-root roses. He has also been designing and installing gardens for many years as the owner of Larkspur Garden Design. Additionally, Gerischer has taught courses in Basic Gardening, and Landscaping for the Homeowner for the Covina Valley Adult Education system, and has been giving presentations over the years for the Los Angeles County Arboretum, the Theodore Payne Foundation, Descanso Gardens as well as a number of other outlets. He is currently the vice president of the Southern California Horticultural Society and has served in the past as president of both the SCHS and the Pacific Horticulture Society. For this presentation, Gerischer will talk about his personal approach to the full year in the rose garden; planting, cultivation, pruning, fertilizing, watering and the cycles of bloom and what to expect when growing organically. Using the idea that healthy soils promote healthy gardens, he will cover how building up soil fertility will go a long way toward developing a rose garden that doesn't require constant fussing and feeding. Pest management in the garden will also be covered, as well as new problems facing rose gardens in Southern California. For anyone wishing to convert their existing rose garden to a more organic approach, he will talk about weaning roses off of manufactured-chemical diets and treatments that are still prevalent in many gardens. Gerischer describes himself as a "recovering rose addict", but is still enamored of the genus and has 35 plants - down from 104 - in his home garden. While he does not recommend gardening as a profession unless you are used to hardship, angst, toil, pain and wondering how you can afford to pay bills, he nevertheless is happiest in a garden. With rose pruning and planting season fast approaching, we will be eager to learn new rose care tips and techniques.

Schedule =

7:10 pm - Webinar opens with SCHS Announcements

7:15 pm - Plant Forum

7:30 pm - Lecture and Q&A with Steve Gerischer

Cost = Free

To register for online Zoom access =

[https://us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/7115919834483/WN\\_Sgj4Wr80RTOmWPL03Dxi9g](https://us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/7115919834483/WN_Sgj4Wr80RTOmWPL03Dxi9g)

For more information = <https://www.socalhort.org/>