

# GARDEN

**Want some roses?** The formal rose garden south of Buckingham Fountain in Grant Park is being reworked as a formal garden and event space with funding from the Tiffany & Co. Foundation and the Parkways Foundation. The old rose bushes will be given away to the public and community gardeners on a first-come, first-served basis from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Friday. Enter on foot by the path from Columbus Drive south of Congress Boulevard; turn right into the garden. Be aware: The free roses are mostly older hybrid tea varieties, more finicky, disease-prone and labor-intensive than modern shrub roses. Call the Parkways Foundation, 312-742-4808.

## Attack pesty buckthorn now



**Beth Botts**

**The Chicago Gardener**

Because nasty, invasive, spreading buckthorn tends to stay green longer than other deciduous shrubs, it's easiest to identify and remove in fall, says John Church, University of Illinois Extension educator in Rockford. Unchecked, buckthorn will crowd out other species in yards as well as natural areas. Grub it up by the roots when the stem is about 3/4 inches in diameter, he says; if you just cut it down, the stumps can resprout. European buckthorn (*Rhamnus cathartica*) is a small tree or shrub with rough bark and glossy, oval leaves that have toothed edges. Female plants may have dark berries, each with four seeds, growing at the leaf stems. Twigs often have a spine at the tip. See a picture at [nps.gov/plants/ALIEN/fact/rhca1.htm](http://nps.gov/plants/ALIEN/fact/rhca1.htm).

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### Coming up:

- Learn all about fruit growing at the Midwest Fruit Explorers Fall Harvest Festival at the Chicago Botanic Garden in Glencoe Sunday; [midfex.org](http://midfex.org)
- Attend the Northeastern Illinois Rose Society free talk on digital rose photography in Gurnee Oct. 26; 847-395-7489.

—Beth Botts

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