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Park of Roses Summer Bloom Season Starts in June

Columbus, Ohio, May 18, 2015 The sight of thousands of roses in full bloom is an annual treat for visitors to Columbus Park of Roses. Although some heritage varieties start to flower in late May, early June is when the modern roses start opening. Many of the roses in the main garden will repeat bloom, nearly continuously, until mid-September. The herb and perennial gardens will be full of color at the same time. Park staff and volunteers are busy pruning plants and removing winter mulch so that air and sunlight can reach each one.

“June is the first peak bloom season, but there will be roses in bloom from now until a hard freeze in late fall.” said Nancy Walsh, development officer for the Columbus Park of Roses Foundation, which supports the park. Many people don’t know there is a second peak bloom in early September.”

Visitors interested in a self-guided tour are invited to download a garden map and list of this year’s 461 rose varieties [here](#). The park is free, open from dawn to dusk year round, and stroller and wheelchair accessible. More information can be found at www.parkofroses.org.

The Ohio Association of Convention and Visitor Bureaus, [OACVB](#), is holding its annual meeting in the shelterhouse in late May. It has invited representatives from Columbus Recreation and Parks Department and the Park of Roses Foundation to discuss destination marketing of the Park, because tourism is an important economic generator for Ohio.

Late May also marks the return of another annual event in the Park- the Civitan Club of North Columbus’ free summer concert series. The performances are held in the historic bandstand near the main rose garden. Here is a [list of concerts](#).

Columbus is hosting the 2015 [American Rose Society](#) Spring and Miniature National Conference, June 11-14. The group will be visiting the Park of Roses for a tour by staff and volunteer guides. More information on the [conference schedule and registration](#) is available.

A new cedar kiosk for visitor information was recently built in the herb garden, replacing an old one. The structure was funded by Little Garden Club of Columbus, a member group of [Garden Club of America](#) which supports beautification projects.

The Park of Roses is featured in a new cooking and travel book entitled “Eat and Explore Ohio.” A double page spread highlights features in each of gardens. Recipes from volunteers are scattered throughout the pages. The \$18.95 paperback book can be purchased in major bookstores, in retail outlets like Sam’s Club, Costco and Walmart, online at Amazon or directly from [Great American Publishers](#). It makes a great gift for local gardeners or out of town visitors.

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