

## Repair Damaged Soaker Hose

*By Tom Mayhew*

Occasionally a soaker (drip) hose will get damaged and will need to be repaired. The damage may occur when planting new roses in an old rose bed and a partially buried soaker hose is cut by the shovel while digging the hole. Here is a quick and easy way to repair the soaker hose. Assuming the soaker hose is a typical 5/8 inch inner diameter hose, purchase a length of clear vinyl tubing that has a 5/8 inch outer diameter with a 1/2 inch inner diameter. A 10 foot length of such tubing (shown below) can be purchased at Lowe's or other stores.

If the damaged soaker hose has not been completely cut in half, then using a pair of heavy duty scissors, cut the hose cleanly in half. Next, cut a short length of the tubing, about 2 inches or so in length, enough to bridge the gap between the two damaged hose ends when allowing for some insertion depth into the soaker hose. Using this short length of tubing, force each end into one of the soaker hose ends to close the gap. No clamps are needed, because both the outer diameter of the vinyl tubing and the inner diameter of the soaker hose are 5/8 inches in size. The tubing will fit snugly in the hose and the water will flow freely between the two damaged ends with no significant leakage. ☺



**Center:** Clear vinyl tubing, 5/8 inch outer diameter.  
**Left:** Short, about 2 inch length of tubing for insertion.  
**Right:** Short length of tubing inserted into soaker hose.



**Damaged Soaker (Drip) Hose Gushing Water**



**Repaired soaker hose with water running thru it.**