

Express News Gardening Tasks

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- Leaves from the fall leaf drop can be collected to use as mulch or as raw materials for the compost pile. They can also be left where they fell to decompose to supply nutrients and organic material for the lawn. Mow the leaves to speed up the decomposition process.
- For color in the shade use cyclamen and/or primula. Pansies, violas, stocks, ornamental kale, calendula, dianthus, sweet peas, alyssum, and snapdragons provide winter color in sunny beds.
- Do not be too quick to prune the freeze damage on your citrus, vegetables and shrubs. The border between dead and alive stems will be clearer in a few weeks. Pruning early in the season may also stimulate vulnerable stem growth. Allow the damaged foliage and stems to help protect the live wood and provide cover to the birds.
- Use bluebonnet transplants to start a naturalized bed in your vacant lot. They also work well as a container plant that will stimulate conversation from your Holiday and spring guests.