

Express News Gardening Tasks

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- To encourage more songbird activity in your landscape, provide one or more birdbaths as a water source. They will need to be rinsed and refilled every day. For even more action outfit the birdbath with a recirculating pump. The pumps are inexpensive and easy to operate.
- Plant new transplants in July for fall tomato production. Prepare the soil with 2 inches of compost and with 10 cups of a slow release lawn fertilizer such as 19-5-9 per 100 sq. ft of garden bed. Use a determinate or semi-determinate variety such as Tycoon, Red Snapper, Celebrity, HM 8849, BHN 968, Ruby Crush, Phoenix, or Valley Cat.
- Cora Vinca is an excellent annual flower to plant for color in full sun. It is available in red, white, lavender, and pink. Use penta for the shade. It is also available in red, white, pink, and lavender. Both flowers provide nectar for butterflies.
- Control Bermuda grass that is invading flower beds and shrub borders with a grass specific contact herbicide such as Fusilade, Poast, Grass-be-Gone, or Ornamec. Follow the label instructions. The herbicide will kill the grass, including the roots without injuring the broad-leaved plants.