

Express News Gardening Tasks

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- Onions and potatoes can be planted in the vegetable garden now. Use transplants for the onions and pieces of seed potatoes planted in trenches for the potatoes. Both vegetables let you know when they are ready to be harvested. The onion tops flop over and the potatoes can be harvested when the plants begin to bloom.
- Get back on a watering schedule with your plants. Container grown plants are especially vulnerable to drying out. Plants that have no obvious growth occurring won't use much water in cold weather, but they should not be allowed to completely dry out.
- Assist the wintering birds in your landscape by providing water in birdbaths and food in feeders. The insect eaters respond to suet blocks and the seed eaters seek out sunflower seeds or safflower seeds. Goldfinches are especially attracted to Niger thistle seed.
- Control scale, and overwintering mites and aphids with an application of dormant oil to roses and fruit trees. Watch for a forecast of 2 days with temps above 45 degrees for the application. In addition to sucking plant fluids the insects carry diseases. Follow label instructions.