

Express News Gardening Tasks

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- If you pulled your fall tomatoes and show nematode damage on the roots, place the infected roots in the garbage rather than the compost pile. The tomato varieties Valley Cat, Tycoon, BHN968, and Celebrity are nematode resistant. Use those varieties if you plant in the infected soil.
- American and lesser goldfinches are active in area landscapes this winter. Provide Niger thistle in a special tube feeder to attract them for close observation. They also like sunflower seed.
- This is an excellent time to aerate and top-dress your lawn. Hire a contractor or rent an aerator (Home Depot, Quality Organic, and others). Get a pickup load of compost for the topdressing. One half cubic yard of topdressing will cover 325 sq. ft of lawn at one half inch deep.
- There is still time to spray your roses and fruit trees that are not blooming yet, with dormant oil to control scale, mites and other pests. Spray when two days with temps above 45 degrees are forecast.