

Express News Gardening Tasks

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- Water is the key to maintaining plants in dry summer situations. Many plants will wilt in the evening. If they are still wilting in the morning they need to be irrigated. A hose end or drip emitter run at the base of the plant is usually the most effective way to water. Sprinkling loses too much water to evaporation.
- Verify that brown areas in the hottest part of the lawn are dried out by hand watering them every day for a week. If it does not green up suspect chinch bugs. Bermuda and zoysia grass that go dormant because of lack of water will quickly recover when the rains return.
- Keep your fruit trees irrigated, The fruit buds form during the summer for next spring's bloom and fruit production.
- Expect the Monarch migrants to pass through San Antonio over the next few months. Have good nectar sources available in the landscape. Mistflower, lantana, duranta, zinnias, salvias, porter weed, fall aster, mint marigold, and Mexican flame vine meet the need and most are available in bloom at area nurseries.