

## Express News Gardening Tasks

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- Now is one of the best times to remove hackberry, Chinaberry, mulberry and other unwanted sprouts in the landscape. You don't necessarily have to identify the seedling if it is growing in the wrong spot. Cut it out as close to ground level as possible and then apply the product "Cut Vine and Stump Killer" to the pruning cut. The material will translocate into the roots and kill the unwanted plant.
- To attract species such as orange-crowned warblers, ruby-crowned kinglets, ladder-backed woodpeckers, Carolina wrens and other insect eating birds to your feeders along with the seedeaters, offer suet. To discourage squirrels and raccoons from eating the suet, use a pepper flavored version. The birds ignore the pepper.
- Fire ants in your containers with shrubs or flowers can be controlled with an acephate based insecticide such as Surrender. For containers with vegetables use a product with an active ingredient such as Spinosad labeled for vegetables.
- Prune fruit trees, roses, and freeze damaged plants now. For instructions and diagrams, visit [plantanswers.com](http://plantanswers.com).