## **Express News Gardening Tasks**

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- Now that we had some soaking rains it is a good time to put some mulch down to reduce evaporation and the requirement to irrigate flowers, vegetables, trees and shrubs. Leaves should be readily available to use as mulch if you have deciduous trees. You can also have a load of mulch delivered by a horticulture supply firm.
- Take advantage of the cool weather and moisture to plant shade trees, fruit trees and shrubs. The CPS rebate for shade tree planting is also still available.
- The moisture should encourage germination of wildflower seeds that have been sitting without action this fall. If you have any unplanted wildflower seed move quickly to spread it on sites in full sun where the seed can reach bare soil.
- If you want to add a new dimension to your bird feeding, consider suet blocks. In addition to many of the seed eaters, several species of insect eaters such as mockingbirds, kinglets, warblers, starlings, and woodpeckers will take advantage of the offering.