

Express News Gardening Tasks

Distribute 03-19-2020

- It is not too late to rent an aerator, aerate the lawn and top dress with compost. Aeration and top dressing are the only reasonable way to restore organic material to the soil around your grass roots. It improves drainage, water holding capacity, gas exchange, and nutrient efficiency.
- To protect your strawberries, primrose, pansies and other low growing plants with vulnerable fruit and foliage from slugs and snails apply a slug and snail bait every 2 weeks.
- The bedstraw seeds are being produced and are showing up on pets that venture into the landscape. Reduce their numbers by using a sturdy construction rake to collect the bedstraw. The next sticky seed source that will show up is beggar's lice. It looks like wild carrot. Pull it by hand or use a hand applicator to apply weed-Free Zone to quickly kill individual plants.
- Zinnias can be planted now by seed or transplants. They are desirable because of their attraction for garden bloom, cut flower use, and nectar for the butterflies and hummingbirds. Eventually any seeds that are produced will be eaten by lesser goldfinches, cardinals, and other seed-eating birds.