

Express News Gardening Tasks

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- Take advantage of the excellent weather and CPS shade tree rebate to select and plant one or more shade trees before the dry hot weather of summer arrives. Keep in mind that smaller specimens are easier to plant and often grow faster.
- For something different, consider primula (primrose) for winter color in the shade. They have a similar growth habit as pansies with unmatched flower color. Plant them in containers and protect them from snails and slugs.
- If you have a yard with thin soil and has increased shade as the trees have matured the lawn is probably dominated by rescue grass or horseherb. Consider mowing them rather than applying a herbicide to accomplish an attractive sustainable winter lawn
- Apply dormant oil to fruit and nut trees to control scale, aphids and other insects hiding in the bark and stems. Make the applications when two days above 45 degrees are forecast. Pansies and other plants under the trees must be covered during the application to protect them from the dormant oil.