

## Express News Gardening Tasks

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- Now is a good time to cut back the unwanted vines on your fences and growing over your trees and shrubs. Cats claw and Smilax are the worst offenders. Cats claw will completely shade its host plant. Brush on some “Cut Vine and Stump Killer” to the soil side of the cut and the vine wont resprout. The herbicide bottle includes the brush. In cases where the Remedy version of the product can be sprayed directly on the foliage, that works too, as long as the spray does not land on stems or leaves of desirable plants. Follow label instructions.
- Plant new shade trees at the same depth that they are in the container. Select one of the well-adapted species included on the CPS shade tree list and if you are a CPS customer you may be able to receive a \$50 rebate for each of up to 5 trees.
- To control scale insects on fruit trees and shrubs apply a spray of dormant oil diluted in water to the trunk and stems. Use the spray when temperatures will be at or higher than 45 degrees for 2 days. Dormant oil is an organic spray. Follow the label instructions.
- Plant potatoes in the vegetable garden. Obtain seed potatoes from your favorite nursery. Cut the potatoes in pieces to include several eyes on each piece. Dig a trench 1 foot deep and place a piece of seed potato every foot in the trench. Cover the planted potatoes with 3 inches of soil and add more soil as the stems emerge until the trench is covered or even mounded.