

## Express News Gardening Tasks.

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- The leaves are falling from deciduous trees in the landscape. The leaves are too valuable to waste. Rather than raking up the leaves to throw them in the garbage use them for mulch, use them in the compost pile or just let them decompose on the lawn. To speed up decomposition on the lawn, mow them.
- Cold weather will eliminate the blooms of zinnias, portulaca, milkweed, and lantana. To replace them as a source of nectar for winter flying butterflies plant dianthus, stock, calendula, and alyssum.
- If you are having trouble getting lettuce seed to germinate, it is usually because the seed is being covered with soil. To germinate it must be placed on the soil surface.
- Discourage squirrels from eating all your birdseed use a steel feeder with weight sensitive perches. It also works to feed safflower seed or pepper enhanced seeds and suet which birds relish, but squirrels avoid.