

## Express News Gardening Tasks

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September is winter gardening time in the vegetable garden. Prepare the soil by adding 2 inches of compost and 10 cups of slow-release lawn fertilizer such as 19-5-9 prior to planting. It is also desirable if the garden is irrigated with drip irrigation. Enlist the help of an irrigation contractor or use a do it yourself kit.

Bring the birds in for observation by meeting their needs for water in the record heat with one or more masonry birdbath. Enhance the impact by installing a recirculating pump.

Spread wildflower seed over sunny areas where the seed can make contact with the soil. Use mixes designed for Texas or packages of your favorite flowers. The seed is available at area nurseries and on the internet.

Leave wasps and other beneficial stinging insects undisturbed if their nests are not in locations where family members are likely to disrupt their activities. In addition to being pollinators, the insects often feed on aphids, webworms, and other insect pests.