

## Express News Gardening Tasks

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- Keeping your birdbaths rinsed and refilling them every day will provide clean water to birds, butterflies bees, and squirrels.
- As the drought progresses stay alert to plants in the shrub border and trees that show wilt symptoms. Provide the needed water at the base of the plant so that the root ball is moistened.
- One option in the cut-flower garden is to allow the cosmos and zinnias to reseed the bed. If you open some space so the seeds can make soil contact, they should be reblooming in 4 weeks. The seed-eating birds such as lesser goldfinches will also feed on the seeds.
- Peppers and okra can still be planted in the vegetable garden. Use southern peas as a low-water use ground cover that will provide some tasty cut beans.