

## Favorite Garden Tools - including those that help use water wisely

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The right tools take the “work” out of gardening!

### Pruning –

- Bypass pruner with replaceable parts (sized to your grip)
- Long-handled loppers (ergonomic)
- Sharpening stone

### Digging (*not scooping*) / Dividing plants –

- Border fork / garden fork (forged)
- Garden spade (forged)
- Hori-Hori knife
- rake

### Weeding (*remove their roots*) –

- Cobra-head weeder (hand-held tool)
- Hori-Hori knife
- Grandpa’s weeder (long-handled tool – use when soil is very moist)
- Three-pronged, forged Japanese weeder

### Watering to make every drop count –

- Quick couplers – for disconnecting hose from watering tools
- Shallow, straight-sided cans –periodically measure sprinkler output and coverage
- Soaker hose
- Drip system
- Irrigation audit (annually): for those with automatic watering systems

**Mulch** – My absolute *favorite* tool to ensure a healthier garden, lower water bill, and nearly no weeds.

**Cover soil** with a layer of not-yet-fully-decomposed organic matter:

Areas with	Best mulch types to use (proper depth)	
shrubs, trees	woodchips (3 to 4”)	leaves (2 to 3”)
ferns, perennials, bulbs	leaves (2 to 3”)	coarse compost (1”)
vegetables	straw (1 to 1.5”)	coarse compost (1”)

[www.chipdrop.com](http://www.chipdrop.com) - sign up to receive an entire load of woodchips for FREE\*

\* *pay a nominal amount of your choice (minimum \$20) to move up on the wait list*

### Local, Reliable Resources

Cascade Water Alliance..... <http://www.cascadewater.org/>

Garden Hotline ..... [help@gardenhotline.org](mailto:help@gardenhotline.org), (206) 633-0224, [www.gardenhotline.org](http://www.gardenhotline.org)

Least-hazardous garden products (interactive website) ..... [www.GrowSmartGrowSafe.org](http://www.GrowSmartGrowSafe.org)

*Maritime Northwest Garden Guide*, Seattle Tilth (edible gardening)

*Pacific Northwest Month-by-Month Gardening*, Christina Pfeiffer