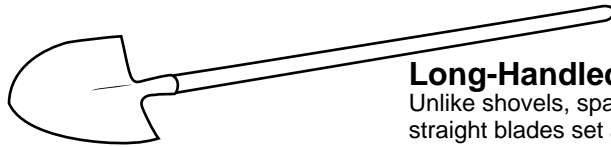


**Penn State Pointers ► The Right Gardening Tools**

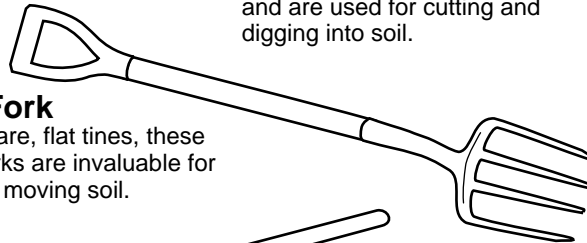
Graphics / Illustration: Tom Laird, College of Agricultural Sciences. Copyright Penn State.

**These five tools are essential for real gardening...**



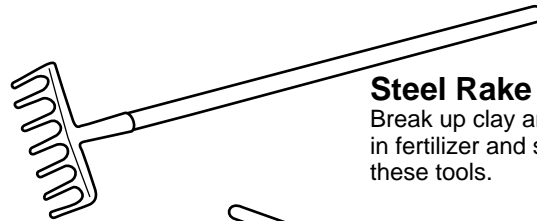
**Long-Handled Spade**

Unlike shovels, spades have straight blades set at an angle and are used for cutting and digging into soil.



**Spading Fork**

With their square, flat tines, these heavy-duty forks are invaluable for preparing and moving soil.

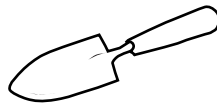
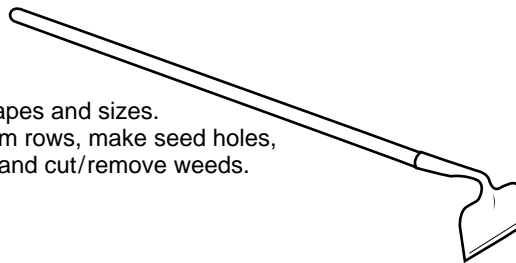


**Steel Rake**

Break up clay and soil clods, rake in fertilizer and smooth out soil with these tools.

**Hoe**

Hoes come in all shapes and sizes. They are used to form rows, make seed holes, cover seeds, till soil and cut/remove weeds.



**Hand Trowel**

Trowels are efficient for marking rows, weeding, making furrows, potting and moving smaller plants.

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**For Spring/Summer/Fall Time Frame**