Tool Shed Contents

Working with tools is an essential aspect of every student’s experience at the Edible Schoolyard. Students are introduced to tool safety in their classrooms before they come out to the garden, and then they are given a tool shed orientation during their first garden class. Below is a list of tools we find essential to run a successful garden program, along with a list of optional tools we find useful to run a large middle school (or high school to adult) program. Choose the tools from the optional list that will be best suited to your program.

Essentials in the ESY Tool Shed

- Hand-cultivation tools like trowels
- Rakes (T and fan)
- Spaded forks
- Shovels (flat, round, snow)
- Clippers
- Loppers
- Gloves
- Harvesting baskets and crates
- Buckets
- Sturdy wheelbarrow
- Broom
- Hoses
- Watering cans
- Trashcan with lid
- Saws (pruning, bamboo, grass and carpentry)
- Basic carpentry/plumbing tools (hammers, pliers, wrenches, screwdrivers)
- Basic carpentry/plumbing hardware (nails, screws, nuts, bolts, tape, staples, replacement fittings, valves, heads, etc.)
- Wire
- Twine and rope
- Wooden stakes
- Organic soil amendments (rock phosphate, bone meal, kelp meal, gypsum, oyster shell)
- Bamboo (for structures, trellising, fencing, stakes)

Optional

- Pitchforks
- Hoes
- Sledgehammers
- Pick axes
- Fence post pounder
- Sprinklers
- Watering wands
- Egg baskets
- Compost thermometer
- Greenhouse aprons
- Crowbar
- Sunscreen
- Rubber pads (for seating on wet days)
- Ponchos or rain jackets
- Rubber boots
- Screens (for winnowing amaranth and other grains)
- Bowls (for seed saving, winnowing)
- Wire brushes
- Plastic scrappers
- Linseed oil (to be added to sand for tool cleaning)
- Liquid Fence (deer repellent)
- Backpack sprayer (for foliar feeding)
- Rubbing alcohol (for cleaning pruning tools)
- Mower
- Weed whacker

- Rototiller
- Gasoline
- Ladders (including tri-pod orchard ladder for harvesting/pruning fruit trees)
- Large umbrellas with stands