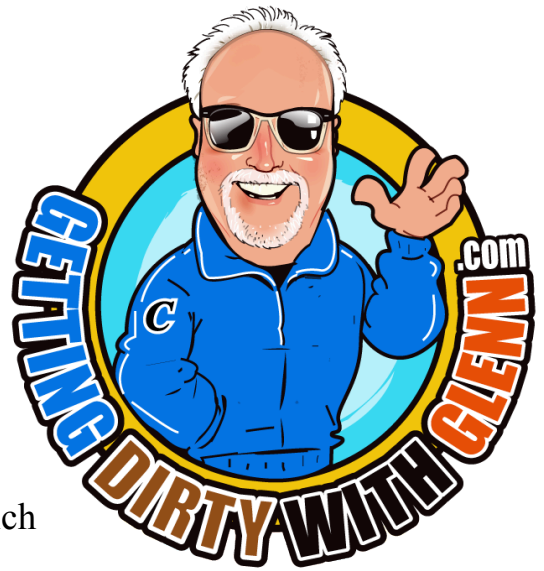


What tools and supplies you need to work on your next garden project depends on the task at hand, so I have curated this list as a simple starting point so you are ready when the time comes to get outside and work in the fresh air and “Get Dirty”



### **\*\*Hand Tools\*\***

- ✓ Hand trowel left or right handed :)
- ✓ Garden pitchfork for turning soil over or moving mulch
- ✓ Hand cultivator (Korean Hoe is my favorite)
- ✓ Pruning shears (Felco hand pruners or my Favorite Electric Pruners)
- ✓ Loppers
- ✓ Weeding tool (weeder, dandelion digger)

### **\*\*Digging & Planting Tools\*\***

- ✓ Shovel (round point and square point)
- ✓ Spade
- ✓ Garden hoe (scuffle or draw hoe)
- ✓ Mattock or pickaxe (For tough soil)
- ✓ Auger (for planting bulbs)
- ✓ Dibbler (for easier planting of annuals or vegetables)

### **\*\*Rakes & Brooms\*\***

- ✓ Garden rake (Metal tine for roughing surface, light grading)
- ✓ Leaf rake (wide and narrow depending on the area you are working in)
- ✓ Lawn dethatching rake
- ✓ Push broom

## **\*\*Watering Equipment\*\***

- ✓ Garden hose with nozzle (Preferably a Damm water breaker with a watering wand)
- ✓ Drip irrigation supplies (Check all the fittings that may have broken over the winter in existing systems or all the parts and pieces you need for a new system)
- ✓ Watering can (I like a two gallon watering can for places you just can't stretch the hose to.
- ✓ Garden hoses and once again preferably Damm non collapsible...I have had mine for over 15 years and they are still going.....
- ✓ Rain gauge (See just how much rain fell directly on your property, which can vary greatly from what the local weather talking head predicted)

## **\*\*Lawn & Turf Care\*\***

- ✓ Lawn mower (if it needs a tune up or new blade and you can't do it, make sure you get it into your dealer in early March to beat the rush an you find yourself cutting your lawn with scissors)
- ✓ String trimmer (with plenty of new line nearby on a spool)
- ✓ Wheelbarrow All of mine have puncture proof tires....they are never flat...a little heavier, but never flat.
- ✓ Aerator (manual or power) This is probably best rented, but make sure you reserve it early
- ✓ Broadcast spreader (fertilizer/seed) Hopefully you cleaned it out from last year and all the levers and wheels are working :)

## **\*\*Pest & Disease Control\*\***

- ✓ Organic pesticides/insecticides My Favorites are anything made by Mirimichi Green. Best root drench fertilizers like Cold Pressed Norwegian Sea Kelp and their organic insecticide is HANDS DOWN the best one ever made...smells like lemons and juniper berries. Don't forget Moisture Manger which reduces watering needs by up to 50%.....I use that in all of my annual containers.
- ✓ Fungicides
- ✓ Battery powered 2 gallon sprayers are a game changer
- ✓ Diatomaceous earth

✓ Slug bait, protect those Hosta.....

### **\*\*Soil & Composting\*\***

✓ Compost bin or tumbler (make sure you keep turning that to introduce air into the mix and promote a healthy compost)

✓ Garden fork (for turning compost)

✓ Soil test kit OR simply take advantage of your states extension services to get you soil tested professionally at a very reasonable cost.

✓ Soil amendments (compost, peat moss, lime, etc.)

✓ Mulch (wood chips, straw, etc.) NEVER and I mean NEVER used colored mulch. They use fresh wood to create that which removes nitrogen from the soil in order to break down and the stain can run out of the planting bed and onto your concrete. I like shaded pine bark or hemlock here in the midwest.

### **\*\*Protection & Support\*\***

✓ Plant stakes

✓ Tomato cages Not the goofy cone ones.....I like the interlocking 2' wide panels that can be put together to form any shape and size support you need.

✓ Trellis netting

✓ Frost blankets

✓ Bird netting (I actually prefer and have had great success with static Owls placed in the garden and on gazebos to prevent bird damage and bird waste from being all over your patio.

✓ Garden row covers

### **\*\*Heavy-Duty Equipment\*\***

I am a lifelong Stihl brand user in my garden construction business and use the Motomix fuel. Yes, it is costly, but my equipment never gets gummed up if I haven't used it in awhile and very rarely needs to be serviced.

✓ Wheelbarrow or garden cart

✓ Rototiller or cultivator

✓ Chainsaw (if pruning large trees)

## **\*\*Personal Protection & Clothing\*\***

- ✓ Gardening gloves (heavy-duty and light-duty) These not only keep your hands clean, but protected while pruning and planting.
- ✓ Knee pads or garden kneeler I use two large knee pads so I can keep moving them along and my knees are always on a pad.
- ✓ Sun hat I LOVE my Shelta brand hat because it has a stiff brim in front and cleans up easily with soap and water. Mine is over 7 years old and still looks like new with washes every couple of weeks.
- ✓ Safety/Sun glasses My favorites are Tifosi brand because they have several styles that offer a reader option as well as darkening lens. The nosepiece and frames have hydrophobic rubber so they never slip when you are sweating.
- ✓ Ear protection (for loud tools) I prefer foam ear plugs with a line connecting them so I can pull them out and they simply hang around my neck for easy access.
- ✓ Boots or garden clogs I love my Hoka work boots.....yes they make work/hiking boots as well as their comfy active shoes.

## **\*\*Miscellaneous Supplies\*\***

- ✓ Plant markers and labels I have used label makers for decades to create permanent plant label markers for my clients so they now what plant is what. I also label any equipment with tire pressure on the equipment so I don't have to strain to see the PSI on the tire. You will find lots of uses for a lable maker in a garden.
- ✓ Twine or garden wire
- ✓ Buckets
- ✓ Seed trays and pots
- ✓ pH meter
- ✓ Fertilizer (organic or synthetic)

If you go to my Amazon shop, I have many of these items listed and I do receive a small commission being part of their affiliate program.

[https://www.amazon.com/shop/gettingdirtywithglenn/list/1KBJ3UIF8RZ7O?ref\\_=aip\\_sf\\_list\\_spv\\_ons\\_mixed\\_d](https://www.amazon.com/shop/gettingdirtywithglenn/list/1KBJ3UIF8RZ7O?ref_=aip_sf_list_spv_ons_mixed_d)