

What are Loppers?

Loppers are a type of scissors used for pruning twigs and small branches, like secateurs with very long handles. They are the largest type of manual garden cutting tool. They are usually operated with two hands, and with handles typically between 12 and 36 inches long to give good leverage. Some have telescopic handles which can be extended to a length of about 6 feet, in order to increase leverage and to reach high branches on a tree. Loppers are mainly used for the pruning of tree branches with diameters less than 2 inches. Some of the newer lopper designs have a gear or compound lever system which increases the force applied to the blades, or a ratchet drive. – [From Wikipedia.org](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Lopper)

The Spooky Beavers utilize loppers to cut small to medium branches that protrude onto a trail. If the branches are larger than 2 inches, we usually use a small hand saw to cut them. If the branches are extremely small, we use a hand pruning tool to cut them. Loppers are also sometimes used to cut small to medium roots that protrude onto a trail during construction or maintenance.

Check back here often as we will be describing various tools that the Spooky Beavers utilize when doing trailwork in Prince William Forest Park, VA.

