Plein Air Supply List

Please try to pack as lightweight as you can. It's nice to be able to move around the garden without lugging ten pounds of equipment! :)

- Watercolor paints in a lightweight palette. I use a small-ish one for plein air painting but bring whatever you like using and is easy to carry around.
- A few sheets of paper towels. I like Viva because they are very soft and good for making cloud shapes.
- Plastic container for water & a water bottle
- Watercolor paper taped to a board or in a block OR use your sketchbook. It's good to have 3-4 sheets of paper in various sizes for each session, from 5x7 up to 9x12.

WATERCOLOR PAPER:

Arches 140 lb cold pressed (the green label) is a wonderful paper but you can also try other companies as long as it is professional grade paper -not student grade. If you aren't sure which is which, just please get the arches paper. Paper is the most important material in watercolor. You can also buy single large sheets of watercolor paper at Blicks and cut it to size. It's a good way to try out different companies and weights of paper.

Saunders Paper

Fabriano Artistico

Baohong -this is the rough version.

SKETCHBOOKS: I am currently using Etchr brand in the largest size and I also love the Hahnemuhle book.

- A water spritzer. This one from Holbein is my favorite. Also sold at Blicks.
- Several sheets of plain paper for drawing or a small drawing sketchbook.
- Pencil, waterproof pen (something like this or a thin sharpie) and an eraser.

For plein aire, also bring bug spray, a good hat, sunscreen and snacks if you like. There are plenty of benches at Fairchild but you can also bring a lightweight chair/stool. You can paint with the paper or sketchbook in your lap or use an easel. This is the one I currently use.

Please reach out with any questions you might have! mary@marymchenry.com