

Ann's Nature Sketching/Plant ID Packing List

Suggested list for Treehaven workshop on August 14-16, 2009

I suggest getting all your gear together, taking a hike out to your back yard, setting it up, and doing a quick little sketch to see if you are comfortable with your arrangement and if you've forgotten anything. If your legs fall asleep, you probably need a better stool. If you can't balance a board on your lap, you may want a small table etc. etc.

You don't need to buy expensive equipment to sketch or paint outdoors. I'm a minimalist myself, and paint outdoors, sitting on the ground with my little Yarka set on 5"x7" postcard sized pieces of watercolor paper. There are, however a few things I always have in my kit.

- **Backpack or bag** You should be able to carry everything on the list in a pack you can comfortably hike in.
- **Stool or chair.** Light, collapsible. You are also welcome to simply sit on the ground if you are comfortable, but you may want something waterproof between you and the soil.
- **Hat with a wide brim.** Wearing sunglasses alters your perception of color.
- **Sunscreen and Insect repellent**
- **Board on which to sketch** Sits in your lap, fits in your pack
- **Spiral bound sketchbook or spiral bound watercolor book** of a small size.
I recommend either the Kilimanjaro or Arches travel books if you wish to add watercolor (Canson, Bienfang, Strathmore and other cheap brands are not recommended) For just sketching and/or colored pencil, a spiral bound sketchbook with nice thick drawing paper will do just fine. The size is up to you. I get mine from cheapjoes.com
- **Pencil and eraser** a pencil sharpener is also a good idea if you don't have mechanical pencils
- **Pens of your choice** I like fine point sharpies for watercolor and general sketching.

******I will provide several watercolor kits and some colored pencils for those who would like to try them, however, if you have your own such equipment, please bring it along for your own use.***

Optional:

- **Snacks**
- **Drinking water.**
- **Digital camera**
- **Plant ID books** such as Newcomb's, Petersons, or "Wildflowers of Wisconsin" by Black and Judziewicz (I will bring along my own small library to share)