

Multnomah County Master Gardener Association's Speaker Series
December 14, 2021

Terrarium Building Workshop with Holly Maxwell

Holly Maxwell's Suggested Supply List

- Clear glass container with a cork or lid - if it doesn't have a lid, it is not a true terrarium that can recirculate moisture;
- Pea gravel or aquarium gravel for drainage;
- Fiberglass screen material or landscape fabric to keep soil and charcoal from dropping into gravel;
- Activated or horticultural charcoal;
- All purpose potting soil/substrate for the plant roots (I made a custom blend of peat or coconut coir, sphagnum moss, and either horticultural sand or perlite);
- Tropical, moisture-loving plants such as Begonias, small ferns (button ferns, asparagus, etc.), moss (Dicranum, etc.), Peperomia, Fittonia, terrestrial orchids (Ludisias, Macodes, etc.), Selaginellas, etc.;
- Top dressings and decorative objects such as horticultural sand, decorative sand, pebbles, crystals, larger stones, figurines, this list is endless; and
- Most importantly - distilled water to provide moisture to your miniature garden.

Suggested tools:

- Long-handled tweezers (aquarium tweezers);
- Long-handled scissors (aquarium scissors);
- Long chopsticks (cooking chopsticks);
- Brush of some kind - I have a fan brush taped to a long chopstick;
- Funnel or tube to direct soil and sands into specific areas of the container;
- A spray bottle or small measure to add distilled water; and
- Paper towels or a microfiber cloth to clean the inside of the container once you've built and watered it.