Policies for Drawing, Photographing, and Painting in the Galleries and Gardens

Sketching with Pencils in the Galleries
Sketching is permitted in the galleries. (Some loan and exhibition agreements may prohibit sketching, drawing, or painting. Such restrictions will be posted.) Only graphite pencils are allowed. Pens, markers, crayons, charcoals, colored pencils, chalks or pastels are not permitted. Please use only pencil sharpeners that will contain any shavings.

Please use firm drawing boards, clipboards, and sketch pads as support. These may not exceed 18 x 24 inches. Guests may not use easels.

Painting in the Gardens
Painting in oil, acrylic, tempera, pastel, or watercolor is permitted in the gardens during public hours. Sketching is also permitted. Please keep materials contained and dispose of any waste in proper receptacles. Please use an easel, firm drawing board, or other firm surface as support.

Please do not enter planting beds. We request that painters refrain from interrupting or impeding tour groups or programs. Please check at the Gatehouse for information regarding the day’s events.

Groups of three or more individuals intending to draw or paint must make a reservation by contacting Director of Education Mary Ladrick, mladrick@theMSV.org, or call 540-662-1473 ext. 224.

Photography at the MSV
The MSV encourages its guests to take casual photographs and videos of their visit for their own personal, non-commercial use.

All commercial photographers must pay a location fee to use the gardens for photo shoots (see below).

There are some photography restrictions for all photographers at the MSV:

- Depending on the exhibition, photography may be prohibited in the Changing Exhibitions Gallery. Such restrictions will be posted.
- In the galleries, only non-flash photography is permitted.
- Tripod or monopod use is limited to the gardens and is not permitted in the galleries. Advance reservations/permissions are not required for personal, non-commercial tripod/monopod use.

To take photos at the MSV, amateur photographers/videographers must purchase general admission to the MSV or be MSV Members. Admission fees are not required on free-admission days.

Please Note:

- All photography is at the discretion of the MSV.
- All wedding photography is considered commercial and a location fee of $100/hour is required, as are advance reservations. Email lwiley@theMSV.org or call 540-662-1473, ext. 217 to make arrangements.
- Product photography is not permitted.
- Commercial filming and commercial photography/photo shoots are permitted by appointment only and permission is granted at the discretion of the MSV. Location fees are required, and certain restrictions may apply. For information about commercial photography and filming, email lwiley@theMSV.org or call 540-662-1473, ext. 217.

I have read and agree to the conditions outlined above.

Print Name ___________________________ Date ________________ Phone Number __________________

Signature ___________________________ Sign up for our eNewsletter! Email address: __________________

Please sign two copies and return one to the Admissions Desk or Gatehouse. nmh rev. 9/2021