



SUCCULENTS SIMPLIFIED

WHAT MAKES THEM A “SUCCULENT”?

- ✘ Aloes
- ✘ Cactus
- ✘ Yucca
- ✘ Agave
- ✘ Peyote
- ✘ Euphorbia
- ✘ Sedums/stonecrop
- ✘ Sempervivums (ie hens & chicks)
- ✘ Echeverias
- ✘ Aeoniums
- ✘ Haworthia
- ✘ Kalanchoe
- ✘ Christmas Cactus
- ✘ Ice plant

Have fleshy thick leaves to retain moisture



SEDUCTIVE SUCCULENTS

- ✓ Minimal care
- ✓ Low water needs
- ✓ Start easily from cuttings or offsets
- ✓ Sculptural shapes
- ✓ Broad color spectrum



FIGURE OUT BEST “CLIMATE”



- ✘ Prefer dry, not humid
- ✘ Most like filtered (not direct) sun
- ✘ Some like shade
- ✘ Some tolerate cold (cold-hardy), others are cold-sensitive (soft)
- ✘ Deer will eat them
- ✘ Don't overwater

THEY DO HAVE ISSUES

Rot, spider mites, mealybugs, etc



- ✓ Need good drainage
- ✓ Let dry out between watering

CACTUS, YUCCA, AGAVE

- ✘ Some can tolerate cold
 - + Too cold for most yucca & agaves in Trinity, pot and protect in winter
- ✘ Too wet in our winters
 - + Opuntia (prickly pear) can tolerate Zone 7, but likes dry desert
- ✘ Stick to pots that you can move into a protected area



TRINITY OUTDOORS (COLD HARDY)



- ✘ Sempervivums (Hens & Chicks)
- ✘ Some Sedums/Stonecrop



TRINITY OUTDOORS (COLD HARDY)

- ✘ Hardy succulents are typically low, spreading plants often used as ground covers, for rock gardens, or in containers mixed with other succulents.
- ✘ Many sedums are evergreen, but some of the more popular varieties lose most of their leaves in the cold of winter, and then re-sprout for the summer growing season.



Purdy's Sedum
Native to Trinity Alps

TRINITY OUTDOORS (COLD-HARDY, MAYBE)



- ✘ New cultivars of Ice Plant?
 - + Delosperma
- ✘ Good groundcover
- ✘ Colorful flowers
- ✘ Not all ice plants are cold-hardy
- ✘ Prefer regular water in summer

KALANCHOE, CHRISTMAS CACTUS, ALOE



- ✘ Not cold-hardy
- ✘ Well-known houseplants
- ✘ Popular for flowers
- ✘ Very easy to propagate
- ✘ Kalanchoe includes Paddle & Panda plants
- ✘ Mix in with other succulents in arrangements

AEONIUMS & ECHEVERIAS

- ✘ Not cold-hardy
- ✘ Rosettes, but also ruffled, pointy
- ✘ Flowers on upright stems
- ✘ Very popular for container arrangements
- ✘ Bring inside in winter



HAWORTHIA



- ✘ Not cold-hardy
- ✘ Low light requirements.
- ✘ Most are shades of green, but all have interesting textures, features, and shapes.
- ✘ Most common – zebra plant

EUPHORBIAS

- ✘ Not cold-hardy
- ✘ Not all euphorbias are succulents
- ✘ Have milky, irritating sap
- ✘ Sometimes look like barrel cactus, coral or sticks



PROPAGATION

- ✘ Start from offsets (pups) or cuttings
- ✘ MCG puts in coconut coir mixed with fertilizer (doesn't get hydrophobic like peat)
- ✘ Try rooting leaves
 - + Let cutting callous
 - + [Propagation from Leaf cuttings video](#)
- ✘ Cutting rosettes – need meristem & sharp knife
- ✘ Seeds (may not look like parent)



RENOVATING OVERGROWN PLANTERS

- ✘ Patio Garden Re-Do
video



SUCCULENT POT DESIGN



- ✘ Try “Thriller, spiller, filler” – 1 vertical plant, 1 that hangs over the side & 1 spreading
- ✘ They do grow!
- ✘ Consider contrast, repetition
- ✘ Select tall, medium, low plants
- ✘ Work from middle of pot outward (thriller off-center)
- ✘ Rosettes at rim at 45° angle
- ✘ Stones or gee gaws to hide soil until plants fill in