



PERENNIALS
AND
GROUNDCOVERS
GARDENING
SERIES



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Xeriscaping with Succulents

By definition, *xeriscaping* is landscaping and gardening that reduces or eliminates the use of supplemental water. The plant list is diverse and often includes many of our PNW natives since once established, they are drought tolerant. Yet some of the most under utilized plant material in xeriscaping are succulents. A lot of them are hardy into temperatures ranging in the teens and below. They offer myriad color, form, and texture to rock or alpine gardens giving it visual interest and low to no maintenance. In containers, they can become the focal point in any situation.

ADVANTAGES

- Lowered consumption of water: Xeriscapes use up to two thirds less water.
- Reduce Maintenance: Aside from occasional weeding and mulching Xeriscaping requires far less time and effort to maintain.
- Xeriscape plants in appropriate planting design, and soil grading and mulching, takes full advantage of rainfall retention.
- Less cost to maintain: Xeriscaping requires less fertilizers and equipment

THE BASICS

Fill a wide shallow dish 3/4 of the way with potting soil. Cover the top with gravel. Blend the mixture thoroughly. This ensures good drainage and a mix that isn't too rich. Moistening with water. There isn't any need for fertilizer.

Remove the plants from their nursery containers and plant the largest one on the side of the pot. Surround it with other plants, clustering similar shapes together.

Sprinkle dark-colored aquarium gravel around each plant so that the soil is covered. This prevents the lower leaves of the succulents from rotting through constant contact with moisture.

Caring for your succulent container is easy. Succulents aren't cactus so they do require a little consistent moisture. They will be happiest in full sun, which also brings out the colors in their foliage. Hardy succulents can be overwintered right in their containers as long as the soil doesn't get soggy and they're protected from drying winds.

THE HARDY SUCCULENTS

- Agave bracteosa 'Calamar' Zn 7a (0-5F)
- Agave gentry 'Jaws' Zn 8a (10-15F)
- Agave parryi 'Flagstaff' Zn 7a (0-5F)
- Agave parryi var. 'Truncata' Zn 7a (0-5F)
- Agave schidigera 'Shira ito No Ohi' Zn 8b (15-20F) *
- Agave toumeyana Zn 7b (5-10F)
- Aloe striatula Zn 8a (10-15F)
- Delosperma 'Mesa Verde' Zn 6b (-5-0F)
- Delospermum basuticum Zn 6b (-5-0F)
- Delosperma 'Oberg' Zn 7b (5-10F)
- Delosperma sphalmanthoides Zn 7a (0-5F)
- Dudleya collomiae Zn 8b (15-20F) *
- Dudleya cymosa Zn 8a (10-15F)
- Echeveria 'Haagal' Zn 8b (15-20F) *
- Echeveria 'Topsy Turvy' Zn 8b (15-20F) *

Graptopetalum paraguayense Zn 8a (10-15F)
Hesperaloe parviflora Zn 6a (-10--5 F)
Jovibarba h. 'Gold Bug' Zn 6a (-10--5F)
Manfreda 'Macha Mocha' Zn 7a (0-5F)
Manfreda virginica 'Spot' Zn 7a (0-5F)
Nolina nelsonii Zn 7b (5-10F)
Opuntia cycloides Zn 5b (-15--10F)
Opuntia ellisiana Zn 7a (0-5F)
Pachyphytum oviferum Zn 8b (15-20F) *
Ruschia putterelii Zn 6b (-5-0F)
Ruschia pulvinaris Zn 6a (-10--5F)
Sedum album 'Murale' Zn 6a (-10--5F)
Sedum 'Blue Ridge' Zn 5a (-20--15F)
Sedum 'Bertram Anderson' Zn 5a (-20--15F)
Sedum confusum Zn 7a (0-5F)
Sedum dasyphyllum 'Major' Zn 5a (-20--15F)
Sedum divergens Zn 5b (-15--10F)
Sedum hispanicum 'Tiny Buttons' Zn 5a (-20--15F)
Sedum makinoi 'Ogon' Zn 7b (5-10F)
Sedum makinoi 'Variegatum' Zn 7b (5-10F)
Sedum oblanceolatum Zn 5b (-15--10F)
Sedum oreganum Zn 5a (-20--15F)
Sedum oregonense 'McKenzie River Form' Zn 5a (-20--15F)
Sedum palmeri Zn 7a (0-5F)
Sedum reflexum Zn 5a (-20--15F)
Sedum reflexum 'Angelina' Zn 5a (-20--15F)
Sedum reflexum 'Green Spruce' Zn 5a (-20--15F)
Sedum reflexum 'Spanish Selection' Zn 4a (-30--25F)
Sedum spathuifolium 'Cape Blanco' Zn 5b (-15--10F)
Sedum spathuifolium 'Carnea' Zn 5a (-20--15F)
Sedum spathuifolium 'Rogue River' Zn 5b (-15--10F)
Sedum spectabilis 'Red Cauli' Zn 4b (-25--20F)
Sedum stenopetalum var. douglasii Zn 4a (-30--25F)
Sempervivum arachnoides var. pittonii Zn 6a (-10--5F)
Sempervivum arachnoides 'Robin' Zn 6a (-10--5F)
Sempervivum 'Blue Boy' Zn 6a (-10--5F)
Sempervivum 'Saturn' Zn 6a (-10--5F)
Sempervivum 'Rubicon' Zn 6a (-10--5F)
Sempervivum 'Virgil Ford' Zn 6a (-10--5F)
Yucca 'Color Guard' Zn 4b (-25--20F)
Yucca gloriosa 'Variegata' Zn 7a (0-5F)
Yucca linearifolia Zn 7a (0-5F)
Yucca nana (hermanniae) Zn 4b (-25--20F)
Yucca rostrata 'Sapphire Skies' Zn 7a (0-5F)