

The Joy of Succulents

- * What is a Succulent? Let's identify!
- * Divide and conquer
- * Care and Propagation
- * Make a plan & make it FUN!
- * Fun Ideas

Heidi Hubler - Cowlitz County Master
Gardener
319-541-1453 or Heiditex@Gmail.com



Master Gardener Plant Sale May 11, 2024



SAVE THE DATE!



8 am  3 pm
Cowlitz Co. Fairgrounds,
Longview, WA

What IS a Succulent?

Succulents are drought-resistant plants that have adapted to dry, arid environments. They store water in their leaves, stems and roots, causing them to appear fleshy. Succulents thrive on neglect and dry soil – they are water-storing plants. This includes Cacti – so, all Cacti are succulents, but not all succulents are Cacti!



Outdoor varieties include Sedum (left) and Hen & Chicks (right). They range in height from ground cover, 4-6" and taller varieties can get up to 36+ inches tall!? Containers and direct into the ground, part or full sun, and a recommended recipe for success: 50% soil mixed with coarse sand, pumice or perlite to ensure excellent drainage.



Hens sent out 'Chick' babies, and as long as they have room to spread out they will meander around your space and fill in slowly.

You can propagate by gently twisting a leaf or clipping at the base of the plant, or clip your stem.

Allow to dry for 2-3 days away from direct sunlight.

Use your soil mix and prepare your space or container.

I use Honey as my 'rooting hormone'. [honey as a rooting](#)

Boil 2 cups of water then add 1 tablespoon of honey. Once the mixture has cooled down, store it in an airtight container (*like a canning or mason jar*) and place it somewhere away from light for about 2 weeks before using it.

Give a light drink of water and water every 2 weeks.

Leaf cuttings can take 2-3 weeks to root. Keep away from direct sunlight until established.

Good Indoor Succulents for Beginners:

home!

excellent easy – care gifts!

mirrors outdoor succulents!

You may already have some of these in your

They also make

Indoor soil and propagation

Jade Plant
Christmas Cactus



Kalanchoe



Aloe Vera



Snake Plant and String of Pearls – also great for beginners!



Make a plan!

What do I want, or what do I have space for?

Inside or Outside?

Real or Faux?

What supplies do I already have?

Containers?

What supplies do I need?

Check your cupboards

Goodwill

Garage sales

The Real Deal!

Faux is fantastic too!



•Prep:

Wash your hands.

Wash your work space, and tools – countertop for me!

Small project – small tools:

- Small trowel (large if I am working outside)
- Bowl or container for mixing your soil
- Soup spoon
- Tweezers
- Gather supplies



I chose this Aloe Vera and a ceramic ice cream cone container –
I picked this up at Goodwill for \$1.00!



Wash your container.
Inspect the plant you are going to work with.
Remove any dead or dry leaves or plant sections by
gently twisting or you can use tweezers to remove.





Soil and Perlite: 50/50
Fill your container with soil leaving room for your plant, you will want your soil line at the base.



Inspect your plant once you remove it from the nursery pot it came in.



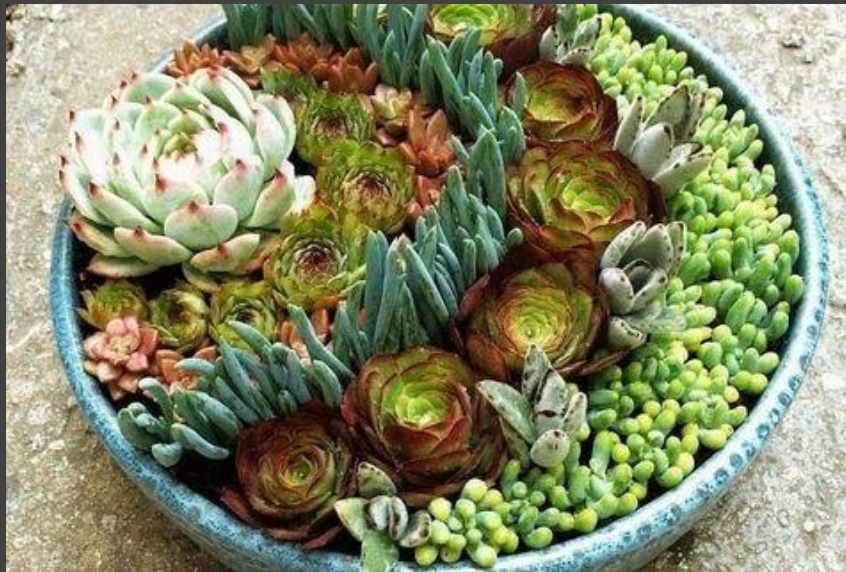
Set in your plant -depending on the size of your container, use your trowel or soup spoon to top off.

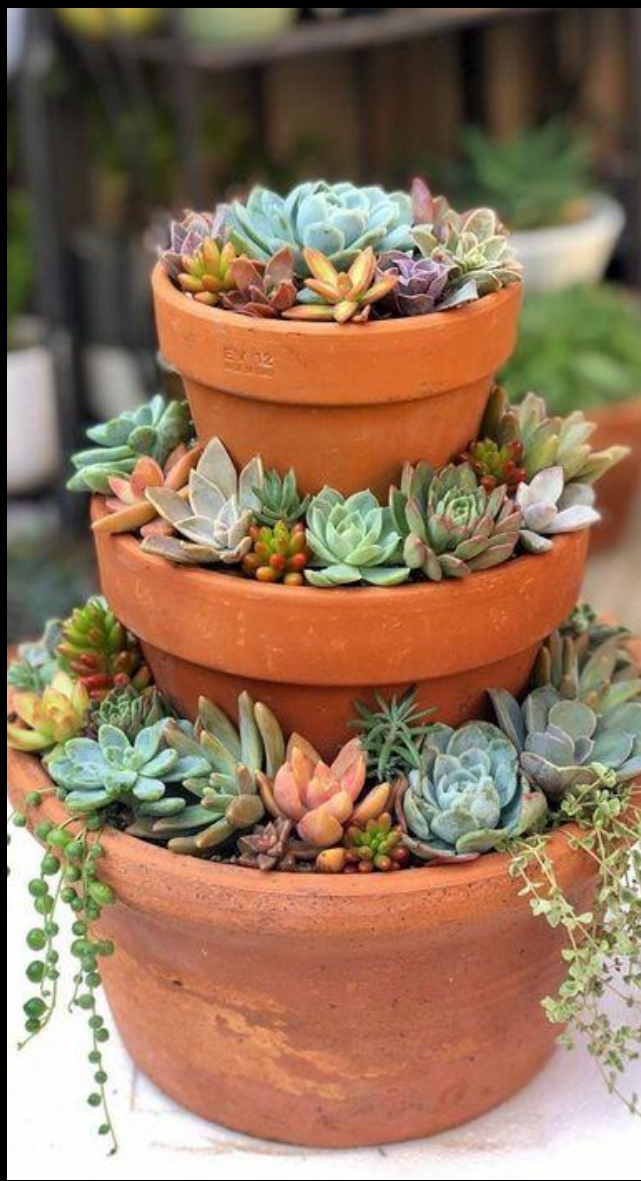


Finished/Planted



Embellished with white sand





Driftwood & Natural Wood planters



Embellishments – Optional!

Sequins

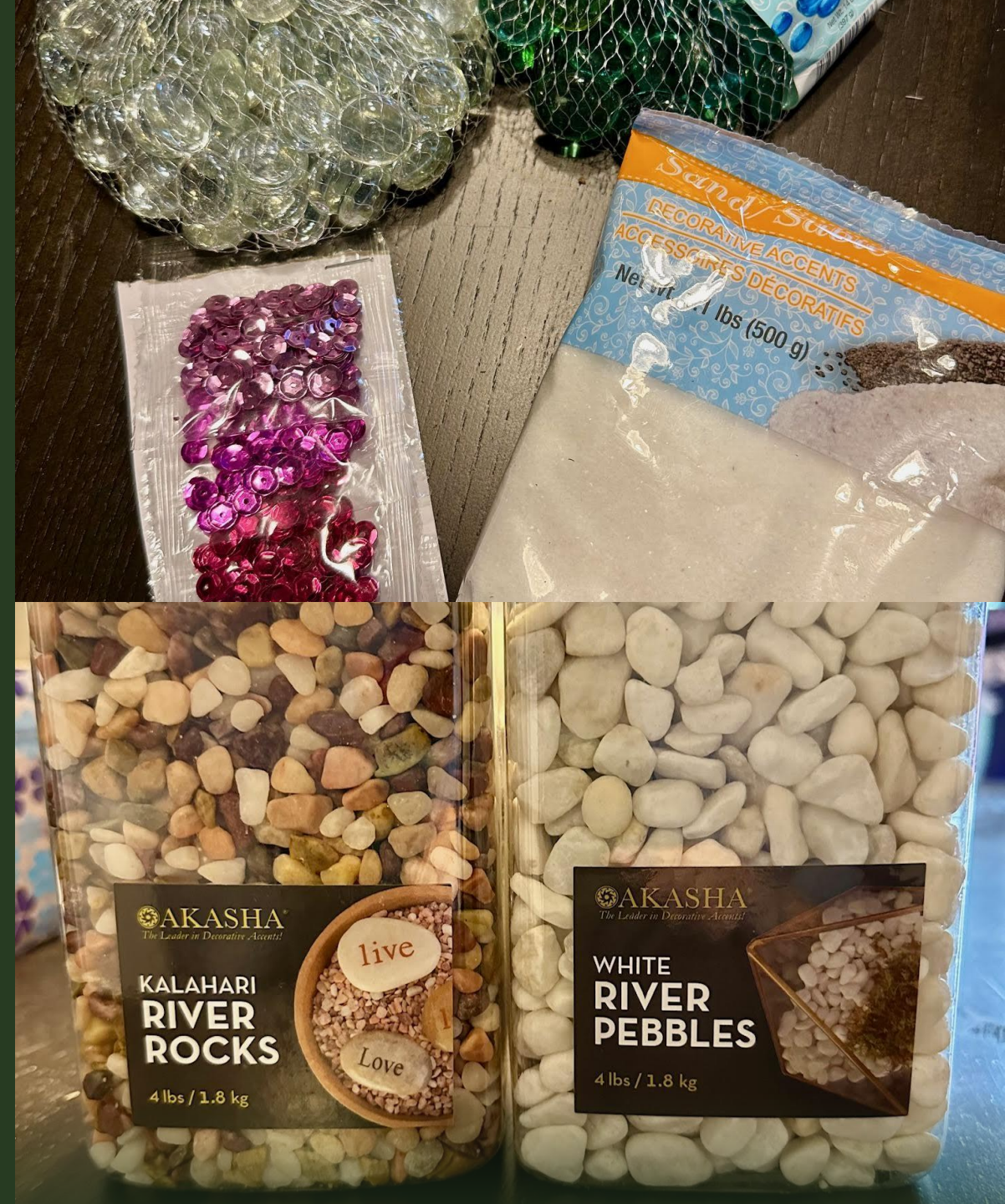
Colored Sand

Decorative glass

River Rock

River Pebbles

Shells





Fairy Scape accessories!

Maintenance:

Indoor succulents require less watering than other houseplant varieties.

Containers – if it does not have a drain hole in the bottom, you will want to make sure you do not over water.

A healthy succulent will have firm plump leaves, when you squeeze between your fingers, they should have very little give - if you see your leaves wrinkle they are thirsty. Do not pour water directly on the plant.

If you have a container with a hole and a saucer under, water from the bottom up.



Indoor succulents – look at how deep your roots are going into your container, they do not like their feet wet for extended periods of time.

Start with 1-2 -3 tablespoons of water every week or every two weeks, depending on the size of your container. In the winter, 1x every 3-4 weeks.

Do not use a mister on your indoor succulent, this can cause brittle roots and moldy leaves.

They do need periodic feeding – you can mix a well-balanced water-soluble fertilizer with a lower nitrogen content (10-10-10 or 5-10-5) at HALF the recommended strength, dissolve in water and apply Spring and Summer every 4-6 weeks.



Resources:

TheNextGardener.com – Watering, fertilizing and planting succulents

TheSpruce.com – Watering and care of succulents

MindBodyGreen.com – Facts on care of succulent & how they add oxygen and have positive mental health effects

PlantCareToday.com – Growing indoor and outdoor succulents

Photos from my own collection as well as Pinterest.com

Source possibilities for purchasing locally in your zone:

Master Gardener Plant Sales

Local Nursery or Floral Shop

Walmart Garden Centers

Fred Meyer Garden Centers

Lowe's or Home Depot Garden Centers

Source possibilities for supplies:

FairyHomesAndGardens.com

Walmart

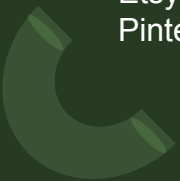
Michael's

Jo Ann Fabrics and Crafts

Amazon.com

Etsy – ideas/photos and sources for purchasing accessories and supplies

Pinterest – ideas/photos and sources for purchasing accessories and supplies



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