Fabulous Foliage!
“Foliar” Perennials

- Great colors and variegations
- Prolonged display
- Bold, architectural forms add depth and personality
- Lend a tropical flair
- Some are “escaped” houseplants
Acalypha – Copper Plant
Alternanthera

It’s not your Grandma’s Joseph’s Coat!

‘Red Carpet’
‘Party Time’

‘Brazilian Red Hots’
‘Red Threads’

‘Burgundy’

‘Gold Threads’ or ‘Thin Gold’
Begonias
Fibrous, Rhizomatous and Tuberous Types and hybrids
C is for **COLOR**!

- Caladiums
- Cannas
- Coleus
- Cordyline
- Croton
Coleus
Cordyline

‘Red Star’

‘Kiwi’

‘Exotica’

Turkey Tail’
Elephant Ears

Alocasia, Colocasia & Xanthosoma
Keep these guys confined!

Colocasia

‘Black Magic’
Alocasia
Mickey Mouse Taro

Xanthosomasa

‘Lime Zinger’
Ornamental Sweet Potato
Hi Ho Silver!
Helichrysum spp.

- *H. petiolare*  
  Licorice Plant

- *H. italicum*  
  Curry Plant
Wormwood
Artemisia spp.

‘Powis Castle’
‘Silver Falls’ Dichondra
Great Variegation!
“Careful placement, integrating both texture and color, can make variegated plants an essential element of the garden.”

Tony Avent, Plants Delight Nursery
Stromanthe ‘TrioStar’
Jewels of Opar

*Talinum paniculatum* ‘Variegata’
Furcraea

*Furcraea foetida* 'Mediopicta'
Flax Lily - Dianella
Devil’s Backbone
Pedilanthus tithymaloides

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Euphorbia ‘Diamond Frost’
Peacock Gingers

*Kaempferia* spp.
Don’t Eat Your Vegetables!
Designing with Colorful Foliage
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• Mix texture, size, shape
• Contrast colors
• Lighten up dark landscapes with variegated plants
• Focal point or accent plants
• Contrast them against a solid background
Designing with Colorful Foliage

“The challenge of blending large numbers of these plants into the garden is one worthy of even the finest designer.”

Tony Avent, Plants Delight Nursery
Divide yard into “rooms” and develop a color theme for each
Start with Color

- Trendy colors
- Your favorite hues
- Coordinate with garden furniture
- Compliment your house colors
Chartreuse/Gold

‘Marguerite’ Ornamental Sweet Potato

‘Cuban Gold’ Duranta
Chartreuse/Gold

‘Goldilocks’
Lysimcachia

Variegated
Ginger
Chartreuse/Gold

Variegated Schefflera arboricola
Chartreuse/Gold

‘Lemon Lime’
Dracaena

‘Lime Zinger’

‘Bengal Tiger’
Canna
Purple/Burgundy

Cordyline ‘Dark Star’

Caricature Plant
Purple/Burgundy
Hemigraphis spp.  

Purple/Burgundy

“Waffle Plant”

‘Flame Ivy’

‘Dragon’s Breath’
Oxalis ‘Charmed Wine’
Create Color Vignettes
Cordyline ‘Red Star’, Duranta ‘Cuban Gold’, Croton
Cordyline ‘Electric Pink’
Coleus ‘Limon Blush’
Lysimachia ‘Sundew Springs’
Ensete – Orn. Banana
Autumn Sedge
Coleus
The Front Pond Room
Hmmm.....
Focal Points and Accents
The Ever-Beautiful Container
Resources: Gardens, Books, Websites, Blogs