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home & garden



LANDSCAPE CALENDAR
**OUTDOOR
LIVING**



Fantastic Foliage

Bring color back to your outdoor landscape

■ ■ By Jon George

Gardening Tips

Tired of green lawns and boring hedges? It's time to inject some summer color into your North Florida landscape. Abundant rains and plenty of sunshine make this a great season of growth for our area. The fantastic colors and forms of foliage can provide immediate gratification rather than waiting months for the blooms to appear.

Create a colorful container for the front doorway with two or three contrasting foliage textures.

This urn at a residence in Haile Plantation (left) features 'Ebony' begonias, 'Henna' coleus and a variety of ornamental corn used for background height. Dark foliage stands out in full sun and makes bright colors brighter.

Try elephant ears for glowing color in the shade.

Nothing beats these elephant ears, (below, right) known as caladiums, for summer color that comes back year after year. Plant these bulbs now.

Texture, texture, texture. Egyptian papyrus or a frame of clipped boxwoods (top, right) are both examples of how interesting textures can anchor a space without the need for flowering plants.



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