

<p> Summit Produce</p> <p> </p> <p> ♦</p> <p> For the past 25 years (except for a few years in between) Jon and I, along with our parents, have purchased our Christmas trees at Summit Produce. Located right in the heart of Kirkwood at the Farmer's Market, this lovely location has the largest selection of gorgeous Christmas trees that I have ever seen. Not only is it a pleasure driving through the beautifully decorated downtown Kirkwood to get to Summit Produce, but also the market itself has a lovely hometown ambiance that just puts me in the spirit of Christmas. Of course, it is prettiest at night when all the Christmas lights are lit.</p> <p> </p> <p> </p> <p> ♦</p> <p> Family owned and operated since 1978, Summit Produce, 150 E. Argonne, Kirkwood, MO 63122 (314-984-9496) at the Kirkwood Farmer's Market has three generations serving its customers plants, produce, pumpkins, and Christmas trees. The trees are organized by type and height, making it easy for us to pick out the different sizes we need for our living room, Sonia's bedroom, and my mom and dad's house.</p> <p> </p> <p> ♦</p> <p> We always select Fraser firs from North Carolina because we love them for their wonderful uniform pyramidal shape, their stout branches that turn slightly upwards, their dark blue-green color, the needles on their trunk, the tiny pine cones that often accompany the branches, and their pleasant fragrance. And as if this were not enough, its excellent needle retention allows me the pleasure of its company until just after Valentine's Day. Last year, our Fraser was still as soft and pliable as it was the day we purchased it at Summit, so Jon let me keep it up until the end of February.</p> <p> ♦</p> <p> After we select our trees, which takes no time at all since all of them are so beautiful, we pick up fir wreaths for our front windows and huge pine cones for displays throughout our house. Summit Produce also carries many other types and sizes of wreaths, roping, branches, poinsettias, Christmas candy, ornaments, and much more to dress up your home for the season.</p> <p> </p> <p> ♦</p> <p> When all our selections are complete, Jon drives us all around the Kirkwood area so that we are able to enjoy all the beautiful homes lit in their holiday finest. As you can see, our journey to Summit Produce is more than a shopping trip. It is an event that is as much a part of our holiday traditions as opening up presents around their gorgeous Frasers.</p> <p> </p>