

The Greenthumbber

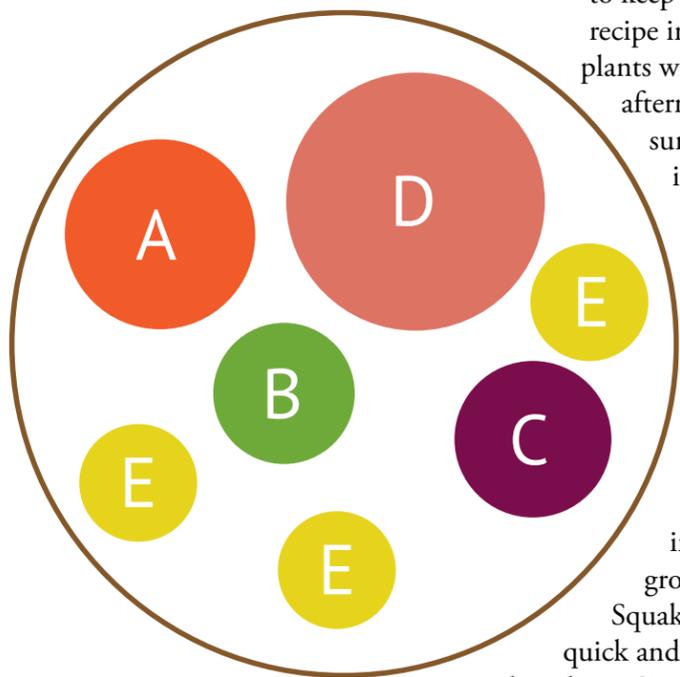


Growing life. Creating beauty.

{ Published Quarterly since 1984 }

Autumn 2020 Edition

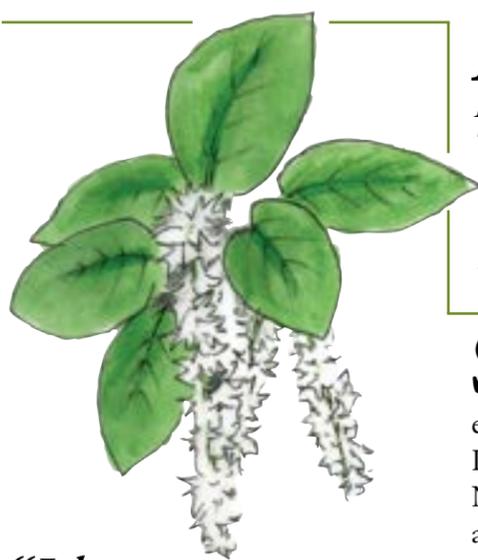
'Electric Ragu' Squak Mt.'s 2020 Fall Container Recipe



Light conditions of your container in autumn are not of concern, as the plants move into dormancy. If you elect to keep your container recipe intact next spring, plants will thrive with afternoon or full day sun. Alternatively, in spring you can remove these plants from your container and permanently plant them in your landscape.

All of the plants in our design are grouped together at Squak Mt. to make it quick and easy for you to select them. Size and number of plants can be adapted for any size pot. The quantities in this recipe fit a pot approximately 14-16" in diameter. When your summer annuals are tired out, come to Squak Mt. for inspiration to continue creating beauty on your porch or patio through our cooler seasons.

Sweet bay, treasured by chefs and gardeners alike, is the leading actor in our fall drama. Deep purple and golden yellow tones surround the highlighted bay plant. The designers at Squak Mt. have created this recipe to bring color and interest to your containers through fall, winter and into early spring.



"I love growing this easy care shrub that provides beauty in multiple seasons!"

— Carole

If you ever walk into a bookstore, you have probably seen books with an attached comment card by an

A Thread Branch Cypress 'Golden Charm'

1 plant
Thin, golden finger like needles arch gently and add a punch of color to the landscape. A slow growing, sun loving conifer that

Sweet Little Henry

employee who loved the book. If we did the same at Squak Mt Nursery then the shrub you are about to read about would have a comment card from our long time shrub expert, Carole.

As summer fights to make her appearance in the maritime climate of western Washington, sweet spire 'Little Henry' will push out long, flower tassels that arch gently down all over the shrub. Each bloom is covered with tiny clusters of fragrant white flowers. 'Little Henry' heralds the arrival of fall as the green foliage turns a vibrant garnet-red. To ensure the most vivid red in autumn, be sure

is easy to maintain at 3 to 6' tall, depending on pruning.

B Heuchera 'Obsidian'

1 plant
Coral bells variety with scalloped leaves in dark purple; nearly black. Grows 8" H x 16" W. Sun or part sun.

C Carex Evercolor 'Eversheen'

1 plant
An eye catching evergreen, ornamental grass. It spills over the sides of your container with shiny, thin, striped, lime-yellow and green foliage. 12-18" H & W. For sun or shade.

D 'Little Ragu' Sweet Bay

1 plant
A beautiful ornamental shrub, also prized for culinary use, featuring narrow, gently lobed leaves on reddish stems. Rubbing the evergreen leaves releases a slight sweet lemon scent. Drop a leaf or two in your next saucepan of spaghetti sauce to add its rich flavor. 'Little Ragu' is a unique compact variety growing only 6-8' high. Easily pruned or topiaried to almost any size, this plant is wonderful in containers. Likes sun.

E Pansies or Violas

3 plants
Grown here at Squak Mt, our winter blooming pansies and violas (*miniature pansies*) come in a wide rainbow of colors. Consider white

and dark burgundy for this recipe.

F Narcissus 'Tete a tete'
3 bulbs
Cheerful miniature yellow daffodils. Underplant your container with these bulbs and enjoy seeing them emerge and bloom early next spring.

\$3 OFF
20# Bag
OR
\$4 OFF
50# Bag

**Hendrikus Organics
'Seasons' Lawn Food
Certified Organic**

*Fall is the most important
time to feed your lawn!*

Limit 100 lbs. per coupon.

While supplies last.
With coupon only.
Expires 10/10/20.



Sweet **NEW!** Invitation

Hyacinth 'Sweet Invitation' features fragrant blooms in spring with incredible tones of apricot and pink. Come select your favorite spring bulbs at Squak Mt. today including tulips, daffodils, crocus and much more! Now is the ideal time to plant bulbs in your garden beds or containers,

Anise For Shade NEW!

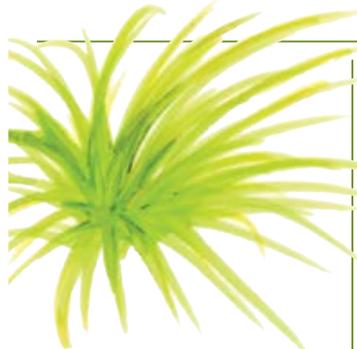
Easy care and scintillating foliage colors highlight a new plant for your cool landscape beds. Illicium are shade loving shrubs that are native to the southeastern United States. Also known as a small anise tree, the leaves of Illicium have the scent of anise when crushed. Plant lovers have bred some exciting new varieties that will be welcomed in your garden.

This fall we are pleased to introduce 'BananAppeal', with vibrant yellow-gold foliage, and 'Pink Frost', whose cream and green foliage turns rosy pink in winter.

BananaAppeal is a bright, evergreen shrub, sporting wide, oval shaped leaves in a gorgeous golden yellow. Its compact, rounded form makes it perfect for a darker spots where it will reflect the filtered sun. We suggest planting it alongside evergreen ferns, and Leucothoe 'Scarletta', whose gorgeous deep red foliage will contrast beautifully with the golden yellow in the winter. Growing to only 3-4' it is perfect for small yards or containers.

Our second new arrival is Pink Frost. Green-cream oblong leaves will deepen to pink as the weather cools in the fall, and remain throughout the winter months. Dark maroon red flowers shaped like a skinny sea star bloom for up to six weeks in the spring. As Pink Frost grows quite a bit taller than BananAppeal, to 6-10' tall and wide, you will want to provide plenty of room. Consider planting behind a swath of dark leafed Sarcococca humilis for striking contrast.

Sweet anise will adapt to partial sun or full shade areas. They are very easy to care for and are not prone to any insects or diseases. Finally, despite the lush leaves, Illicium are deer resistant! We suspect you should protect this shrub from harsh winter winds in the foothills east of Issaquah.



Lumen Gold NEW!

Autumn is an exquisite time to enjoy the beauty of ornamental grasses. Foliage begins to create vibrant fall tones and mature flower plumes add vertical interest and movement in the garden.

'Lumen Gold' is a hot new fountain grass (Pennisetum), boasting three seasons of electric color. New leaves in spring are bright gold turning to a lime green in summer and fall. You will find success growing 'Lumen Gold' in full or partial sun locations, noting that increased sun will intensify the yellow coloration.

Compact, graceful arching leaves make 'Lumen Gold' a great addition to your garden border, or as an accent in containers. Growing only 10" H and 12" W, like other Pennisetums it features attractive airy, bottle brush shaped flowers in summer. Fountain grass enjoy well drained soil and are quite drought tolerant once established.

Come browse the wide selection of ornamental grasses at Squak Mt. today.

Little Ruby Fig NEW!

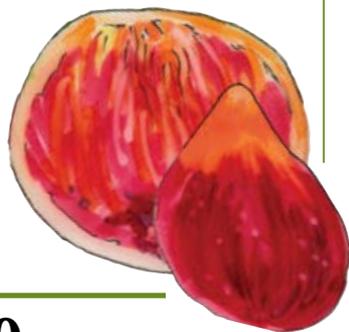
Delicious homegrown figs can now be enjoyed in even the most limited growing spaces. Introducing 'Little Ruby' a naturally dwarf variety. Ideal for pots (even bonsai!) or cramped garden beds, your balcony or patio can now be home to mouth-watering fruit.

'Little Ruby', grows only 3-6' tall and will give you a bumper crop of small red-brown skinned figs in late July and again in early October. This fig does grow a very large breba crop (breba fruit sets on "old wood"). Figs that bear a breba crop begin developing tiny figs on their branches in late summer and fall. These fruits then overwinter and grow to maturity in spring, providing a first crop of figs in early summer! Therefore you want to be judicious when pruning in winter, otherwise you will remove a lot of tasty fruit that is beginning to develop. Figs will also set fruit on "new growth" each year. This crop will typically be harvested at the beginning of fall. Sometimes our

summers are too mild to get a good fall crop. So fig varieties that bear a heavy breba crop are very desirable in our maritime climate!

Figs are self-fertile so there is no need to provide a second fig in order to produce the sweet ruby flesh. Your homegrown figs would be delicious made into a simple jam to spread on crackers with a sharp cheese, or as a base for a pizza with prosciutto and mozzarella.

Cold hardy to -10F, plant 'Little Ruby' in full sun for optimum fruit production. If growing in a container, we recommend a pot at least 12" diameter to get started.



Squak's 2020

January - February

We had a lot of heavy rain but otherwise times were quite normal!

March

Mid-month we began altering our store layout almost every day in response to building community

health concerns. Starting March 24th we closed public access to our nursery, and provided "Parking Lot Pickup" service.

April

A whole month of Ecommerce and phone orders! Thank you for your support. In the greenhouse, our

Low Light Tropicals

Fight off the shorter daylight hours in autumn and the winter blahs with indoor greenery! Low light plants are best suited for northern or eastern window exposures and typically receive less than four hours of daylight. Consider these: **Pothos vine**, feature waxy, thick leaves with a long, narrow leaf shape. They can tolerate somewhat drier soil and have few pest issues.

Jade Pothos boasts all green foliage.

Golden Pothos Green with flecks of yellow.

Snake Plants can survive in low light for quite a while. Make sure to water only when the soil is completely dry. Consider moving them into bright light a few times a month to store energy.

'**Laurentii**' have tall, green leaf blades edged in bright yellow.

'**Black Coral**' grow out new leaves in a deep shade of greenish-black.

Peace Lily is a low-light lover that wants to stay pretty humid, so avoid letting the soil dry out. Water when the top inch of soil is still slightly damp.

'**Domino**' has pretty white-flecked leaves that add a lot of visual interest.

'**Sensation**' is a giant variety with large, shiny leaves and can grow to six feet high.

The ZZ plant's (illustrated above) succulent stems can go for months without water. They survive in little to no light as long as they are never overwatered. Provide quick draining soil for best results.

team continued planting all of our crops of beautiful summer annuals for you.

May

On May 2nd our nursery and greenhouse reopened to the public! Greenhouse layout featured a one-way path and other safety measures were enacted.



Fall Color

Grown in our Greenhouses. Homegrown quality provides you with longer blooming plants, more color choices and the very best value!

Hardy Mums & Asters
Many varieties including bloom colors in reds, white, pinks, golds, blues and yellows

Ornamental Cabbage & Kale
Many varieties to choose from!

Pansies & Violas
All of the cheerful colors that you love!

4" pots just \$1.79
when you purchase a dozen or more (regularly \$2.49)

While supplies last.

Squak Holiday Dollars



We enjoy thanking our customers by distributing Squak Mt. Holiday dollars. For each \$10 spent at Squak Mt. from today through December 11, 2020 you will earn a Holiday Dollar. Holiday dollars will be redeemable December 12 - 23, 2020. When redeeming Holiday dollars you can save up to 50% off of your purchase of holiday merchandise. Each holiday dollar redeemed must be matched with a U.S. Dollar. Holiday merchandise includes all ornaments, greens, cut and permanent Christmas trees, poinsettias, holiday ribbon and holiday décor. This offer is good while supplies last.

June

On June 20th our Garden Shed, featuring houseplants, indoor pottery, garden decor and more re-opened to the public. A new one-way flow and wider aisles have been created.

Purple Cabaret NEW!



Royal purple tones on a flower invoking the tropics, create an intoxicating allure on this hot new plant. Enter Hibiscus syriacus 'French Cabaret Purple' (commonly known as Rose of Sharon), a deciduous, easy care, cold hardy (-20F) shrub that is ideal for the back row of mixed garden borders.

Featuring big, double flowers in a beautiful purple-violet, this new hibiscus will bloom from July to October. The ruffled texture of the blossoms is reminiscent of the skirts worn by French Cabaret dancers. Branches form in an attractive vase shape, with blossoms lining the stems.

Perfect for a full sun area of your yard, 'Cabaret Purple' will grow to 5-8' tall and 4-7' wide. Come take a stroll at Squak to discover your favorite shrubs.

Fall Baskets

Our greenhouse team has been dreaming big and is growing some exceptional hanging baskets for your enjoyment. Our largest baskets are 16" in diameter and feature a wide range of evergreen perennials, grasses, ferns and trailers. Pansy and viola blooms add vibrant splashes of color to the baskets. The selection of cold hardy, evergreen varieties assures you that you will be able to enjoy their beauty thru fall, winter and into early spring. Come select your favorite baskets today, grown by the team at Squak Mt.

July - August

We enjoyed helping many of you with your summer landscape projects. Thank you!

September - October

Come celebrate the beautiful colors and textures of autumn, and

Events at Squak Mt.

Our events at Squak Mt. are currently on hold. Check in at Squakmtnursery.com/events to see the latest news in the months ahead!

Master Gardener Clinics

Due to community health concerns the Master Gardener clinics have gone virtual for the rest of the year. If you have a plant problem and want to ask a Master Gardener please go to www.mgfcc.org/ask-a-mg.

We look forward to hosting the MG team in person again in 2021.

Poinsettia Fundraiser

At Squak Mt. Greenhouses we are renowned for the long-lasting quality and rich colors of our poinsettia crop. This crop is grown primarily for you, our retail customer. In addition we are very thankful for the steady participation of many non-profit groups that have partnered with Squak Mt. for poinsettia fundraisers over the past four decades. In this chaotic time a small handful of groups are unable to participate. If your group is interested in an easy, fun, festive, successful fundraiser, please email Matt at fundraise@squakmtnursery.com today.

Veggie Q&A



Q: What vegetables can I plant in fall?

A: Broccoli, cabbage, lettuce, kale, spinach, Brussel sprouts, chard and other leafy vegetables can tolerate some frost and are considered cool season vegetables that can be planted now.

Q: How late can I plant cool season vegetable starts outdoors in fall?

A: It depends on whether you hope to harvest this year, or you will overwinter and harvest next spring. For plants that are to be fall harvested, they require sufficient time to form edible, mature crops before the cold of winter stops all plant growth. These crops should typically be planted by mid to late august.

Vegetables that are fall planted for overwintering and harvesting in the spring need to be in the ground by the end of September. This allows them some time to get their roots established before winter. They may need some protection (for example, cover with a harvest guard fabric) during the winter to survive hard freezes.

Q: Why should I plant dry garlic bulbs in the fall?

A: Fall planted garlic settles in and starts to grow during autumn. It goes semi-dormant during the winter. Then in the spring, already established, it starts to grow as soon as the days grow warmer. A bigger garlic plant is developed, in comparison to one that is planted in spring. A more mature plant will yield larger garlic bulbs. Come grab some garlic bulbs at Squak Mt today. Add some of our Complete organic fertilizer to your planting hole and get them in the ground right away!

enjoy a stroll thru the nursery and Garden Shed at Squak Mt.

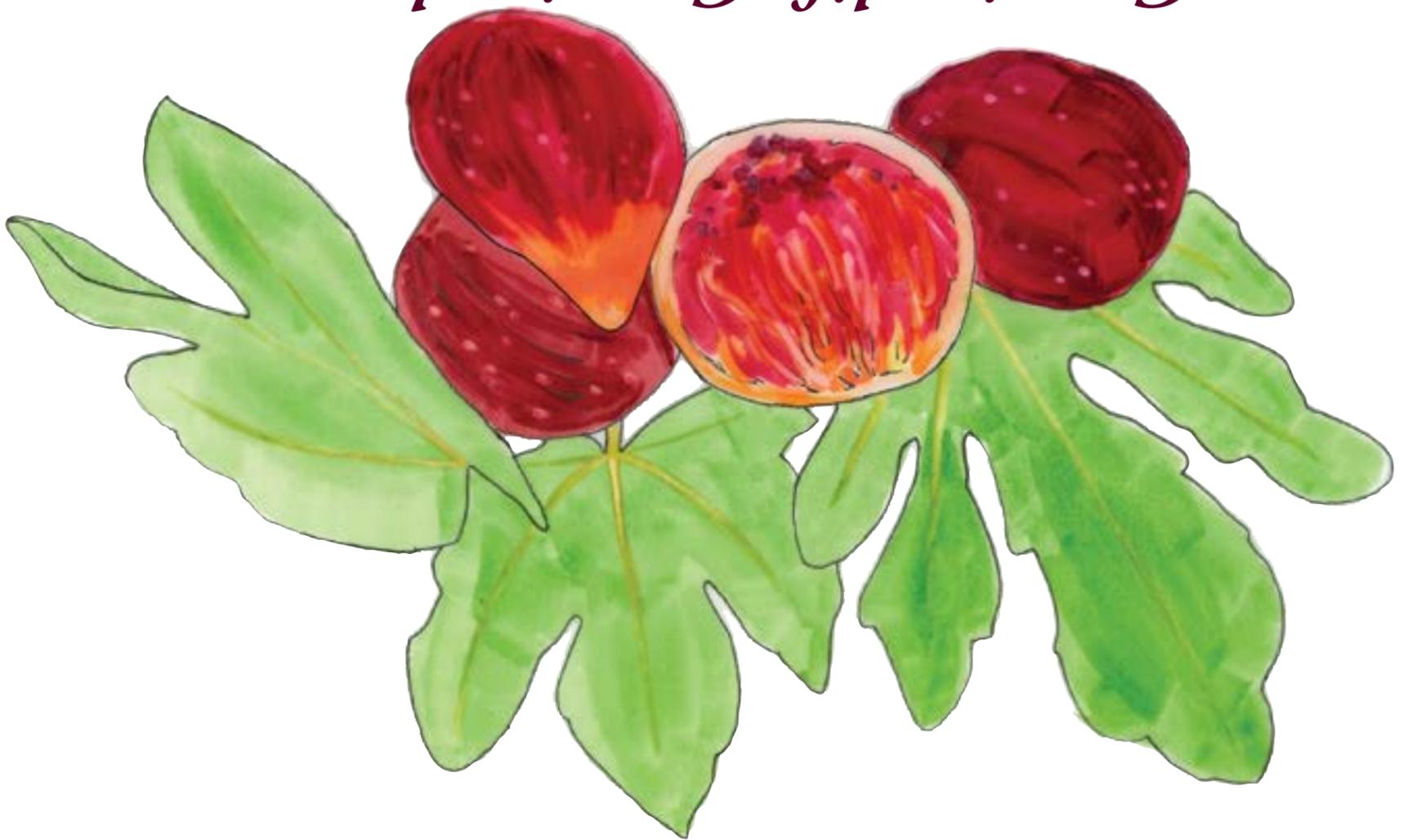
November - December

We are growing a wonderful crop of poinsettias for your holiday celebrations. Our Garden Shed will be transformed into a Christmas Wonderland, while retaining wide

aisles and great airflow. Fresh-cut trees, living trees, wreaths and more will also be featured as you create a warm, festive home to celebrate the holidays.

(We humbly acknowledge that sometimes our future plans are actually not in our control!)

Growing life. Creating beauty.



Squak Mt. Greenhouses & Nursery
7600 Renton-Issaquah Road SE
Issaquah, WA 98027

Beauty of Gardening

When we plant a seed in the ground and the leaves emerge, then unfurl, we are reminded of the wonder and goodness of life. When the blossoms form and their exquisite details, design and colors are revealed, we rejoice in the beauty that was created for us to enjoy.

We hope that gardening has brought times of encouragement and joy to your home in this challenging season.

The entire family at Squak Mt. thanks you for allowing us to serve you as we "Grow Life & Create Beauty".



Fall is for planting!

Warm soil and mild temperatures make September and October wonderful months to plant in your landscape. Roots will begin to get established prior to going into dormancy. This allows plants to grow more vigorously when spring arrives next year. Throughout September we want to help you get your plants well established with some of our favorite organic products.

Organic Planting Compost helps improve soil quality. Mycorrhizae are beneficial fungi that spread quickly through the soil, bringing water and nutrients to your plant's roots in a highly efficient manner.

Purchase \$250 or more landscape plants

Receive
1 FREE
1 lb. Package Mycorrhizae
OR
3 FREE Bags
Organic Planting Compost
(1.5 cu ft each)

With this coupon. While supplies last. Calculated on price of plants, after any discounts. All live plants included in this offer, excluding only houseplants. Expires 9/30/20.

Purchase \$100 or more landscape plants

Receive
1 FREE
4 oz. Package Mycorrhizae
OR
1 FREE Bag
Organic Planting Compost
(1.5 cu ft each)

With this coupon. While supplies last. Calculated on price of plants, after any discounts. All live plants included in this offer, excluding only houseplants. Expires 9/30/20.

Conveniently located:

Take Exit 15 off I-90. Go South 1 mile to Renton-Issaquah Road (State Highway 900). Look for our big yellow sign on the left. We welcome you, and only request you wear a mask.

Squak Mt. Greenhouses & Nursery
7600 Renton-Issaquah Road SE
Issaquah, WA 98027
SquakMtNursery.com
425/392.1025

Fall Hours:
Monday - Friday 9:30AM - 5PM
Saturday 9AM - 5PM
CLOSED SUNDAYS
(Open Labor Day 9:30AM-5PM)



Follow us at [SquakmtNursery](https://www.instagram.com/SquakmtNursery) on Instagram