

# Bald Cypress

*Taxodium distichum*

Height: 50-70' Spread: 20-45' | Light: ☀️-🌑 | Moisture: medium-wet

Bald cypress is a majestic long-lived, pyramidal conifer (cone-bearing tree) with soft, ferny foliage that enhances many landscapes. Although they resemble a needled evergreen (same family as redwoods), they are deciduous, which means that their feathery leaves turn copper-colored and fall to the ground in the winter. (The tree becomes "bald" and leafless as the common name suggests!) Bald cypress prefer "wet feet" or moist areas. In the deep South, large stands are a familiar sight growing directly in swampy water, with their branches heavily draped with Spanish moss. Bald cypresses often develop distinctive, knobby root growths ("knees") which protrude above the water surface around the tree. In cultivation, however, they also grow well in drier, upland soils or as street trees. Trunks feature an attractive, exfoliating bark and are buttressed (flared or fluted) at the base.

