

# CELEBRATION OF TREES



## **BALD CYPRESS** *Taxodium distichum*

### **CHARACTERISTICS**

**Height:** 50–70'

**Width:** 20 to 45'

**Identification:** Bald Cypress is a long-lived, deciduous tree. Trunks are buttressed at the base, and when growing in water, often develop distinctive, knobby root growths ("knees"). Soft, feathery, yellowish-green foliage turns an attractive orange/cinnamon-brown in fall. Rounded, wrinkled, 1 inch diameter, purplish-green cones mature to brown.

### **GROWING CONDITIONS**

**Native Habitat:** Bald cypresses are well-adapted to wet conditions and frequently found along riverbanks and swamps. Trees are also found in dry areas and can be planted as ornamentals. The Bald Cypress grows in acidic, loamy, moist, sandy, silty loam, well-drained and clay soils. The tree grows at a medium rate of 13–24" per year.

**Water:** It is adaptable to wet or dry conditions and can withstand flooding.

**Sun Light:** Full sun is ideal at least six hours of direct sunlight each day.

### **BENEFITS**

Bald Cypress is a large ornamental tree and a good selection for growing in wet soils either in low spots or near water. Seeds are eaten by wild turkey, wood ducks, evening grosbeak, water birds, and squirrels.

Source: *Missouri Botanical Garden Website*

