Wannemaker's
HOME AND GARDEN

1940 Ogden Ave
Downers Grove, IL
630.852.0700
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Shawnee Brave Baldcypress

Taxodium distichum 'Shawnee Brave'

Height: 70 feet

Spread: 20 feet

Sunlight: ○

Hardiness Zone: 5a

Description:

A tall, narrowly pyramidal deciduous conifer characteristic of the South but actually quite hardy; narrow bright green leaves turn golden brown in fall, a broad trunk and odd knee-like protrusions at the base when grown in standing water; adaptable

Ornamental Features

Shawnee Brave Baldcypress is primarily valued in the landscape for its rigidly columnar form. It has emerald green deciduous foliage. The ferny bipinnately compound leaves turn an outstanding orange in the fall. The shaggy antique red bark adds an interesting dimension to the landscape.

Landscape Attributes

Shawnee Brave Baldcypress is a deciduous tree with a strong central leader and a narrowly upright and columnar growth habit. It lends an extremely fine and delicate texture to the landscape composition which can make it a great accent feature on this basis alone.

This is a relatively low maintenance tree, and is best pruned in late winter once the threat of extreme cold has passed. Deer don't particularly care for this plant and will usually leave it alone in favor of tastier treats. It has no significant negative characteristics.

Shawnee Brave Baldcypress is recommended for the following landscape applications;

- Shade
- Vertical Accent



Shawnee Brave Baldcypress
Photo courtesy of NetPS Plant Finder



Shawnee Brave Baldcypress foliage
Photo courtesy of NetPS Plant Finder

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Planting & Growing

Shawnee Brave Baldcypress will grow to be about 70 feet tall at maturity, with a spread of 20 feet. It has a high canopy with a typical clearance of 7 feet from the ground, and should not be planted underneath power lines. As it matures, the lower branches of this tree can be strategically removed to create a high enough canopy to support unobstructed human traffic underneath. It grows at a medium rate, and under ideal conditions can be expected to live for 80 years or more.

This tree should only be grown in full sunlight. It is an amazingly adaptable plant, tolerating both dry conditions and even some standing water. It is not particular as to soil type, but has a definite preference for acidic soils, and is subject to chlorosis (yellowing) of the foliage in alkaline soils. It is somewhat tolerant of urban pollution. Consider applying a thick mulch around the root zone in winter to protect it in exposed locations or colder microclimates. This is a selection of a native North American species.