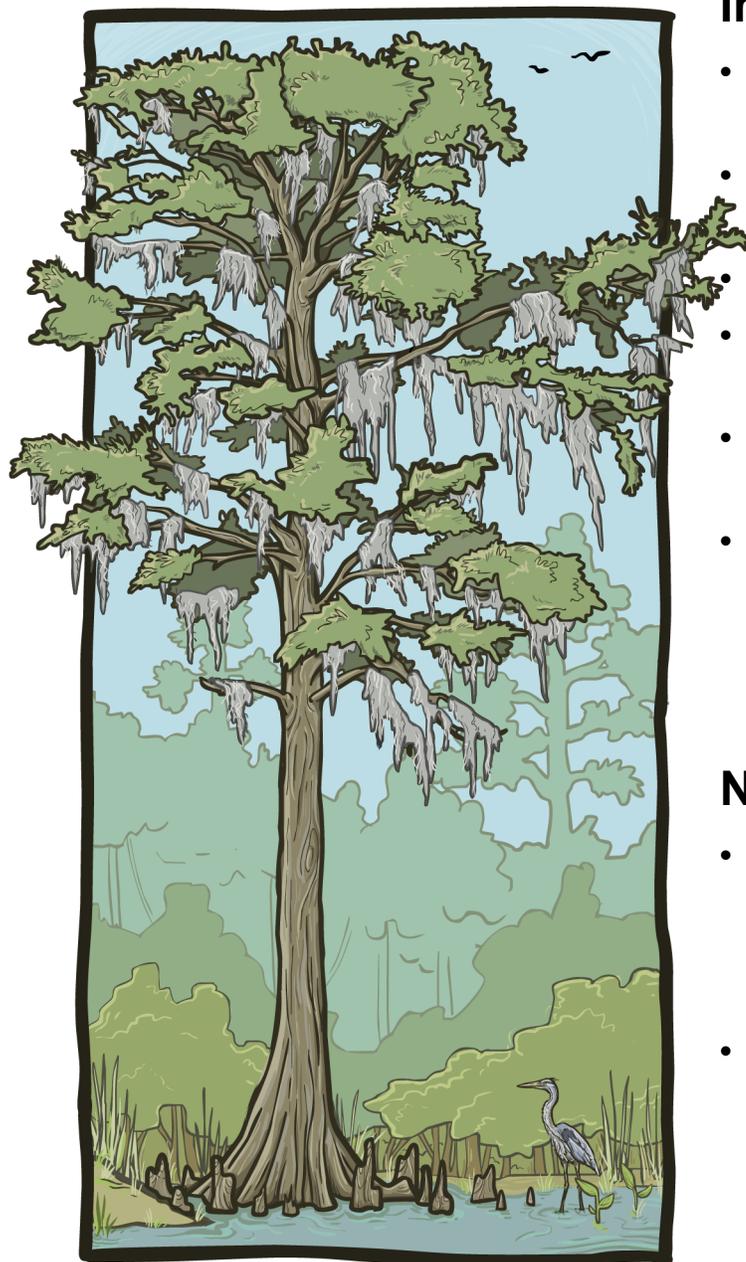


Bald Cypress

(*Taxodium distichum*)



Bald Cypress

Instant ID

- A tree commonly seen with its roots under water
- Has needle-like leaves arranged in a feather pattern
- Grows to over 100 feet tall
- Has ball-shaped cones about 1 inch in diameter
- Mature trunks are broad at the base and narrow towards the top
- Surrounded by “knees” (extensions of roots exposed to air) when growing in water

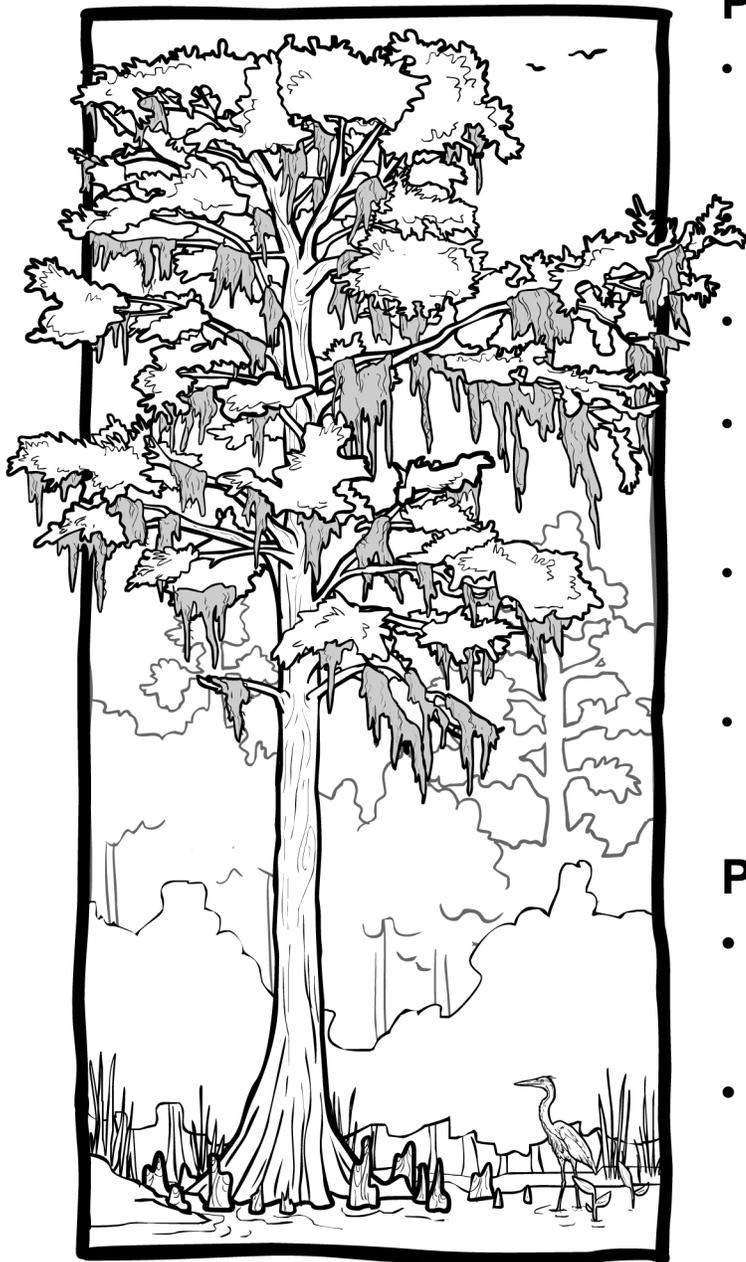
Native Niches

- Found in and around the gently flowing waters of bayous, rivers, streams and areas which are seasonally flooded
- Grows in the Atlantic and Gulf coastal plains into eastern Texas and up the Mississippi River to southern Indiana and Illinois



Bald Cypress

(*Taxodium distichum*)



Bald Cypress

Plant Particulars

- Has the longest lifespan and widest trunk of any tree in the eastern United States
- Nicknamed “wood eternal” for its rot resistant wood
- “Knees” predicted to help stabilize the tree in wet soil
- A deciduous conifer (a tree with cones which loses its needles in the autumn)
- Fallen needles stain the water brown with tannin (same chemical found in tea)
- Often seen with Spanish moss hanging from its branches

Population Protection

- Widely harvested for their wood, large cypresses are now only found in protected areas
- Mulch from sustainable sources is a better landscaping choice

