



ILLINOIS STATUS

- common endangered threatened
 native exotic

ILLINOIS RANGE

southern 1/3

BIBLIOGRAPHY

Illinois Department of Natural Resources. 1999.
Biodiversity of Illinois, Volume I: Aquatic Habitats CD-ROM.

bald cypress

Taxodium distichum

Kingdom: Plantae
Division/Phylum: Coniferophyta
Class:
Order:
Family:

FEATURES

The bald cypress tree may grow to nearly 100 feet tall. Some Illinois bald cypress trees are over 1,000 years old. This tree sometimes produces "knees" in the water. "Knees" are structures that grow from the roots to the water's surface. The pale, reddish-brown bark is scaly. Leaves are yellow-green needles which may be up to three-fourths inch long. Leaves fall off the tree in autumn. Fruits are spherical, brown to green, wrinkled cones.

BEHAVIORS

The bald cypress tree grows in swamps. This tree flowers from September through November.

HABITATS

- | | |
|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> bottomland forests | <input type="checkbox"/> rivers & streams |
| <input type="checkbox"/> lakes, ponds & reservoirs | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> swamps |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Lake Michigan | <input type="checkbox"/> temp water supplies |
| <input type="checkbox"/> marshes | <input type="checkbox"/> wet prairies & fens |
| <input type="checkbox"/> peatlands | |