

# Essential Evergreens

The world of Conifers... from miniature specimens to gigantic evergreens - the selection is endless! Multiple shades of greens, yellows, blues and wonderful variation in textures and forms. There is a conifer for most every spot in the landscape!

You get what you pay for... Want slow? Look at the growth rates. Want big? Give your conifer room. Remember, right plant in the right place!

Look at growth habits... Tall and Stately? Upright Broad? Weeping? Globe Shaped? Low and Spreading? Tip: don't assume "Dwarf" means small and tidy in all cases.

Consider if you need to prune and choose ones that can be sheared. Some species are easy to control and shape if desired, others need to be left alone.

Conifers will provide structure and evergreen presence through the winter months. Once all the deciduous plants lose their foliage and the perennials go dormant, these will shine in Northwest winters, and all year long!

## Planting and Care of Conifers

- Placement in the landscape and planting – watch drainage on some!
- Planting of container grown versus field grown specimens
- Fertilizing – acidic/Rhododendron type food each spring at least
- Pruning/maintenance – basics on pruning and when.
- Insects, diseases, and flagging each fall

## The Genus Breakdown...

- **Abies:** True Firs including giants, weepers, and some awesome dwarfs and minis.
- **Cedrus:** True Cedars including some giants, weepers and dwarfs.
- **Cephalotaxus:** Japanese Plum Yews – nice foliage, texture and form.
- **Chamaecyparis:** Hinoki Cypress, Threadbranch Cypress, Lawson's Cypress.
- **Cryptomeria:** Japanese Cedars of all kinds – great texture and color in all sizes.
- **Cupressocyparis:** Leyland Cypress -Hybrid of Chamaecyparis and Cupressus.
- **Cupressus:** True Cypress Trees like Monterey Cypress, Arizona Cypress.
- **Ginkgo:** The Original prehistoric Conifer with "foliage" – very cool!
- **Juniperus:** The Junipers – and not the same old ones either!
- **Larix:** The Larch Tree – weepers, shrubs and trees that turn gold in every fall.

- **Metasequoia:** The Dawn Redwood – Big old prehistoric deciduous conifer.
- **Microbiota:** The Russian Cypress – good bullet proof plant in shade or sun.
- **Picea:** The Spruce Tree – nice selection of forms and colors – especially blue!
- **Pinus:** The Pine Tree – huge array of choices from small shrubs to giants.
- **Podocarpus:** The Plum or Yew Pine – hardy flavors with unique colors.
- **Pseudotsuga:** Our Native Douglas Fir – look for blue variety – great color.
- **Sciadopitys:** The Japanese Umbrella Pine – nice variety of dwarf ones now.
- **Sequoiadendron:** The Giant Sequoia Tree – big trees and narrow weepers.
- **Taxodium:** The Bald or Swamp Cypress – take wet areas in the yard.
- **Taxus:** Yews of all kinds including Japanese and English varieties.
- **Thuja:** The Western Cedars/Arborvitaes – useful for hedging, focal points.
- **Thujopsis:** The Staghorn Cedar – easy deer-proof conifer.
- **Tsuga:** The Hemlock Trees – great dwarf, weeping and upright ones.

Check our website, [www.sunnysidenursery.net](http://www.sunnysidenursery.net), to see pictures of many of these options. We also have a printable list of the varieties we typically have in stock.

We also recommend checking on Iseli Nursery's website, [www.iselinursery.com](http://www.iselinursery.com), the finest wholesale conifer grower in the world - which many of our plants come from. They are wholesale only, but have excellent pictures and cultural information on specific cultivars on their website. Look them up by the genus list shown above!