## Italian Cypress

*Common Name*

*Cupressus sempervirens* *(Scientific Name)*

### PHYSICAL CHARACTERISTICS

- **Canopy potential:** 10’ – 20’ wide
- **Annual Growth Rate:** 36”
- **Powerline Friendly:** 60’ – 70’ from base
- **Root Damage Potential:** Moderate
- **Leaves:** Scalelike, tiny, 1/8” long. Grayish or bluish green, each with visible pit and resin.
- **Flowers:** 3/8 – 1 1/8” wide. Gray to brown and rounded.

### ENVIRONMENTAL CHARACTERISTICS

- **Water Use:** Moderate
- **Edible Fruit Producing:** No
- **Allergenic:** High
- **BVOC Emissions:** Low
- **Sonoran Desert Native:** No
- **Invasive Species:** No

**Tree Care:** Plant in full sun or partial shade in moist or dry soil. The tree is drought tolerant, but irrigation during the summer promotes growth.

**Ecosystem Services:** Known for durable, scented wood and most famously for the doors of St. Peter’s Basilica in the Vatican City, Rome. In cosmetics it is used as astringent, firming, anti-seborrheic, anti-dandruff, anti-aging, and as fragrance. The dry seeds are able to help people reduce skin conditions like acne or help heal cuts or scrapes.