



Piñon Pine

Pinus edulis

Pine Family (Pinaceae)

Zones: 5-8

Full Sun

Low Water

Location: Childrens' Garden, Conifer Garden, Floral Walk, Fragrance Garden, Herb Garden, Rose Garden

Piñon Pine is a small, narrow-leaved evergreen tree native to the Great Basin. It is a dense, slow-growing pine that reaches a height of 15-30 feet. The dark green leaves are 1 ½- 2 inches long, deer resistant, and occur in bundles of two.

Piñon Pine produces cones filled with edible nuts, which are eaten by many mammals and birds. Every 5-7 years, the trees will use all available energy on nut production. In between the cycle, only a few cones will be produced. Along with eating the nuts for sustenance, Native Americans used the sap to waterproof vessels for carrying and storing water.

It is quickly becoming a favorite in xeric gardens for the ability to thrive in dry conditions. *Pinus edulis* prefers full sun in well-drained soil; avoid over-watering.