

# Weeping willow

## Salix babylonica

### **Description**

Introduced to North America as an ornamental.

#### Habit

Perennial tree to 40 ft tall; rounded crown; long, hanging branches; grayish-brown, irregularly furrowed bark.

#### Leaves

Alternate, simple, very narrowly lance-shaped, finely serrated margin, yellow-green above and milky green below, 3-6 inches in length, 3/8 to 1/2 inch in width.

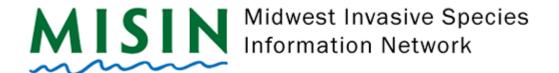
#### **Stems**

Very slender; smooth; olive-green to pale yellowish brown; hanging or drooping for long distances; almost rope-like; buds are small, appressed and covered by a single, cap-like scale; terminal buds lacking.

#### **Flowers**

Dioecious, males and females appear as upright





catkins and are quite fuzzy, 1 inch long, appearing before or with the leaves.

#### **Fruits and Seeds**

A 1 in long cluster of valve-like capsules, light brown in color, contains many fine, cottony seeds; ripen in late May to early June.

#### Habitat

Native to Asia.

#### Reproduction

By herbaceous stem cuttings, woody stem cuttings or softwood cuttings.

#### Similar

White Willow (Salix alba); Black Willow (Salix nigra); Corkscrew Willow (Salix matsudana Koidzumi ).

## **Monitoring and Rapid Response**

Hand pull small seedlings; use machinery to remove larger trees and root systems in dry areas; effectively controlled using any of several readily available general use herbicides such as glyphosate.

#### Credits

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