Dwarf Japanese Juniper

*Juniperus procumbens ‘Nana’*

**Plant Description:** This low-lying evergreen shrub has ground-hugging branches that form a dense mound. When planted in masses, it forms a beautiful bluish-green colored groundcover. The plant has a variety of uses, but is especially useful for erosion control on slopes where turf is difficult to maintain.

**Mature Size:** 6-12 inches tall, up to 5 feet wide

**Growth Rate:** Moderate

**Plant Habit:** Prostrate groundcover

**Ornamental Characteristics & Uses:**

**Foliage Color:** Bluish-green

**Uses:** This versatile plant can be used as a groundcover, planted in a garden border, on a slope, or in a rock garden. It is popular for places where branches can hang over a wall or container edge, can be cultured as a bonsai specimen, and is also suitable for coastal landscapes where salt tolerance is desired.
Growing Requirements:

Cold Hardiness Zone(s): 4-9

Exposure: Full to partial sun

Water Needs: Low; very drought tolerant once established.

Soil Tolerances: Tolerates a wide variety of soils and sites.

Soil pH: Acidic to Alkaline

Maintenance: Low

General Care & Growing Tips:
Water plants regularly during establishment. After establishment, plants typically thrive on rainfall alone in Florida but may need irrigation in times of severe drought. A balanced, slow release fertilizer applied in early spring can be beneficial for growth and development during the first few years. Mature plants do not require regular fertilization. If a cascading shrub is desired, the plant can be staked initially at planting. Shearing dwarf junipers is generally not recommended.

Common Pests: This plant is generally pest free; watch for foliar diseases.

Photo credit: Alicia Lamborn