

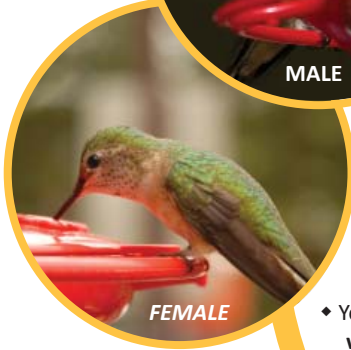
HOW TO ATTRACT HUMMINGBIRDS

Hummingbirds are one of the more popular birds for attracting to the backyard. The hummingbird that is seen in Wisconsin is the Native **Ruby-throated Hummingbird**, *Archilochus colubris*.

They usually arrive in the first week of May (some arrive in April). The arrival varies depending on weather, with males usually being the first to show up to stake out their feeding territories. Most leave toward the end of September. Males usually depart first, and females and the young follow about two weeks later.



MALE



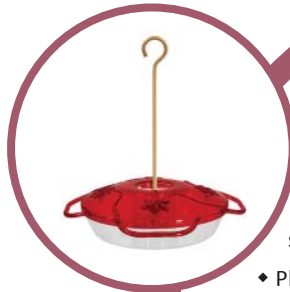
FEMALE

FUN FACTS

- ◆ They are the tiniest of all birds weighing less than an ounce and measuring 2-3 inches
- ◆ They are the only bird that can **fly** front, back, sideways and upside down at **30 mph**
- ◆ Only bird that can hover with them flapping their wings 220/second
- ◆ The **male** has a ruby-red throat, a white collar, an emerald green back and a forked tail.
- ◆ The **female** has a green back and tail feathers that are banded white, black and grey-green.
- ◆ You can track the ruby throated hummingbird migration by going to: www.hummingbirds.net/map This is one of many websites that you can use for tracking. This way you can see where they are being spotted and help when you start placing out your hummingbird feeders.
- ◆ During the migration, hummingbirds generally fly alone and often the same path they have flown earlier in life. They fly by day and low usually just above tree tops which allows for easier spotting of food sources. They will use the winds for traveling. Research has shown that hummingbirds can **travel up to 23 miles per day**.

FEEDERS

- ◆ Place feeder close to hummingbird plants and close enough so you can watch. They can be aggressive so placing additional feeders may be needed.
- ◆ Locate feeder in shady area. Sunny area will affect sugar solution and should be replaced more frequent.
- ◆ Place feeder at least 4 feet above ground.
- ◆ Nectar or sugar solutions should be replaced around every 3 to 5 days. Recommend cleaning the feeder before adding a new supply.
- ◆ Feeders may attract bees and ants from the sugar solution. Some feeders will have bee guards to keep bees from getting to the sugar solution. Also, some feeders will have moats on the feeders or can purchase moats to hang feeders from that keep ants out of the feeders.



ACCESSORIES

Think about adding a hummingbird swing near your feeder to provide a place for hummingbirds to perch & rest.

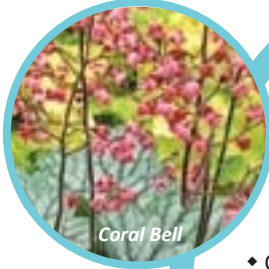


Feeder with an attached ant moat



HOW TO ATTRACT HUMMINGBIRDS

USING PLANTS



Coral Bell



Weigela

- ◆ Hummingbirds lack a sense of smell and are drawn to flowers by their color. Preferred flower colors are **red, orange, pink** but will eat nectar from flowers of most colors.
- ◆ Combine both **annuals and perennial** plants for blooms throughout the season
- ◆ Plant different size plants to create a tier look. This gives the hummingbird different height options.
- ◆ **Choose a variety** of bloom colors. A more variety garden attracts more birds and creates a variety of looks for the homeowner.
- ◆ Consult with your local garden center for recommendations of plants depending on your location for size, height, and light, etc.

PLANTS THAT ATTRACT HUMMINGBIRDS

ANNUALS

Begonia
Dahlia
Fuchsia
Impatiens
Lantana
Nasturtium
Petunia
Salvia
Snapdragon
Tobacco Plant (Nicotiana)
Zinnia

PERENNIALS

Beardtongue (Penstemon)
Bee Balm (Monarda)
Bleeding Hearts
Butterfly Bush (Buddleia)
Cardinal Flower (Lobelia)
Columbine (Aquilegia)
Coral Bells (Heuchera)
Daylilies
Delphinium (Larkspur)
Foxglove (Digitalis)
Gayfeather (Liatris)
Hollyhock (Alcea)
Hosta
Lilies
Lupine
Phlox
Rose of Sharon
Yucca

VINES

Clematis
Honeysuckle
Morning Glory
Trumpet Vine

SHRUBS

Azalea
Coralberry
Lilac
Quince
Weigela



Fuchsia



References:

Article: Hummingbird Migration, Hummingbirdcentral.com
Article: Plants that attract Hummingbirds, The Old Farmers Almanac
Extension Publication, Attracting Hummingbirds, Penn State Extension
Article: Flowers that Attract Hummingbirds, About.com
Images: Courtesy of Monrovia.com

ATTRACTING ORIOLES



You notice a stunning black and orange bird in your backyard. Wondering what type of bird that could be? That would be Baltimore Oriole. A migratory bird that makes it way to Wisconsin in spring and then migrates to Mexico/Central America for Winter.

There are couple of other orioles that visit Wisconsin. The Orchard Oriole is a regular visitor along Bullock's and Scott's oriole.

FEEDING ORIOLES

FEEDER OPTIONS

- ◆ These birds tend to have a sweet tooth with their preferred food being nectar, fruit and jelly. They will also eat insects. Placing oriole feeders with oriole nectar, oranges or grape jelly are to help with sighting this beautiful birds.
- ◆ Orioles tend to be considered a shy bird. Look at keeping feeders out of high human activity areas until they get use to the area.
- ◆ Start putting feeders out April. Keep feeders out late into the fall to catch orioles migrating south. (Timing will depend on weather, as to when they are moving into the area)
- ◆ Protect the feeders from ants by installing a moat on the feeder.
- ◆ Keep fruit, jelly and nectar feeders fresh by replacing the contents every few days.
- ◆ Plant flowers with orange hues for attracting orioles to your yard.



Nectar Feeder



Fruit Feeder



Ant Moat



Jelly Feeder



Jelly/Meal Worm & Fruit Feeder