

# ATTRACTING HUMMINGBIRDS

Advice from: Wild Birds Unlimited®  
Attracting Hummingbirds to Your Yard

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The annual spring return of the Rufous Hummingbird corresponds with the flowering of the Red-Flowering Currant and Salmonberry in late February to March.

Males arrive first to establish territories, followed by females a few weeks later. In the milder areas of Western Washington, Anna's Hummingbirds often remain year-round.

The best way to attract hummingbirds to your garden is to provide plants that are covered profusely with sweet nectar flowers. Once the "hummers" are in your garden, they will find your hummingbird feeder.

If you have no visitors to your feeder in May and June, don't give up? After raising their families, many hummers spread out to new feeders and are quite active in July through September.

## HUMMINGBIRD NECTAR PREPARATION

The safest, purest nectar you can make is:

1 part table sugar to 4 parts water.

- Boil water, add sugar, cool.
- To make large quantities, boil, bottle and refrigerate.
- Replace with fresh nectar every 3-5 days, more often in hot weather to avoid fermentation.
- Clean feeder with hot water at each refill, removing any mold.
- We do not recommend adding red food color.
- Never use honey as it contains botulism spores, which are toxic to the birds.

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<i>Albizia julibrissin</i> Silk tree, mimosa	Deciduous tree to 40'	June-August	Pink and white stamens	Sandy or loamy	Full sun	7-10
<i>Aloe</i> species Aloe	Succulents	Varies	Red, orange, yellow, white	Sandy	Full sun	9,10
<i>Aquilegia canadensis</i> American columbine	Perennial	Early spring- midsummer	Yellow and red	Sandy or rocky, alkaline	Sun or partial shade	2-8
<i>Begonia coccinea</i> Scarlet begonia	Perennial	Almost year around	Coral red	Loamy	Semishade	All, but needs to be indoors in winter
<i>Buddleia davidii</i> Common butterfly bush, summer- lilac	Deciduous or semievergreen shrub to 10'	Late summer- early fall	Lavender, blue, white	Alkaline	Full sun	5-9
<i>Calliandra haematocephala</i> Pink powder-puff	Evergreen shrub to 10'	December- April	Red	Any		10
<i>Callistemon citrinus</i> Lemon bottlebrush	Evergreen shrub or small tree t 10'	Throughout year	Red	Rich, porous	Full sun	9,10
<i>Campsis radicans</i> Trumpet creeper, trumpet vine	Deciduous vine	July- September	Orange and red	Well drained, fertile	Full sun	4-9
<i>Castilleja coccinea</i> Scarlet paintbrush, Indian- paintbrush	Perennial	March- October	Scarlet	Loamy, with humus	Full sun	3-9
<i>Chaenomeles</i> species Flowering quince	Deciduous shrubs to 10'	Late winter- early spring	White, pink, orange, red	Loamy	Full sun	4-9

<i>Justicia brandegeana</i> Shrimp-plant	Evergreen shrub to 3'	Year around	White flowers with purple dots	Loamy or sandy, with leaf mold	Light shade	9,10
<i>Kniphofia uvaria</i> Red-hot-poker	Perennial	Spring-frost	Orange-red	Well drained, sandy or loamy	Full sun	6-10
<i>Lantana camara</i> Lantana	Evergreen shrub to 6'	Year around	Pink, yellow, orange, scarlet	Loamy, with humus	Full sun	8-10
<i>Leonotis leonurus</i> Lion's-tail	Perennial	Fall	Orange-scarlet	Sandy, with humus	Full sun	9,10
<i>Lobelia cardinalis</i> Cardinal flower	Perennial	July-September	Cardinal red	Rich, moist	Shade	2-7
<i>Lonicera japonica</i> Japanese honeysuckle	Evergreen or deciduous vine	Spring-summer	White, yellow, tinged with purple	Well drained, loamy	Sun or partial shade	3-9
<i>Lonicera sempervirens</i> Trumpet honeysuckle	Evergreen or semievergreen vine	May-August	Orange or scarlet	Well drained, loamy	Sun or partial shade	3-9
<i>Lupinus</i> species Lupine	Annuals and perennials	Spring-summer	White, red, pink, blue	Most	Full sun	4-10
<i>Mimulus aurantiacus</i> Sticky monkeyflower	Perennial	Spring-summer	Orange	Most	Full sun	7-9
<i>Mimulus cardinalis</i> Monkeyflower	Perennial	March-October	Scarlet	Rich, moist	Partial shade	7-9
<i>Abutilon hybridum</i> Abutilon, flowering maple	Evergreen shrub to 8'-10'	Year around	Yellow, red, and white	Well drained, loamy	Full sun	10
<i>Agave americana</i> Century plant	Succulent	Summer	Greenish yellow	Sandy, porous	Full sun	6-10