

Expect them at the end of March and beginning of April

## Types of Hummingbirds in North Carolina



*Ruby-Throated*  
As the name suggest, these hummingbirds have ruby colored feathers in their throats.



*Buff-Bellied*  
The beak of the male is red with a black tip.



*Broad Tail*  
These birds prefer to live in places with higher elevations. Because of the cold temperatures, they enter in a state of torpor to slow their metabolism.

# Hummingbird Garden Guide

Zone 8

## Tips for a great Hummingbird garden

## Nectar Recipe

## Facts about Hummingbirds

## Types that visit North Carolina

*Rufous*  
These species are bright orange on the back and the belly.



*Anna's*  
Males like to make a dramatic dive to courtship the females.



*Calliope*  
This species is the tiniest hummingbird in the United States.



*Allen's*  
This species is very similar in appearance to the Rufous Hummingbirds. The difference lies in their narrow tails.

*Black-Chinned*  
These birds are dull metallic and grayish white. The males have purple metallic feathers.



*Broad-Billed*  
One of the most colorful species of Hummingbirds showing bright colors of metallic blues and greens.





If you're an avid gardener you probably love the sight of a Hummingbird in your garden.

These tiny birds get their name from the sound they make when flapping their wings while flying. They are excellent flyers and pollinators. Even though, the majority of Hummingbirds are found in the tropics, at least 9 species out of the 360 have been spotted in North Carolina during their migration season; with the Ruby-throated being the most common.

The diet of these birds consists mainly of nectar but they also eat other insects and even spiders. The insects and spiders provide them with salts and other nutrients they can't get from the flowers. Additionally, Hummingbirds use the spiderwebs when making their nests.

## Hummingbird Nectar Recipe

1/4 Cup of White Sugar  
1 Cup of Water

Bring water to a boil. Once it starts boiling, turn off the heat. Add sugar and mix until dissolved. Let it cool before filling feeder. Remaining nectar can be stored in the fridge.

When planning a garden for Hummingbirds, besides colorful flowers, trees and shrubs are a must. These birds prefer areas that simulate forests and meadows. Providing them with a variety of plants not only for eating, but also for nesting, These combination will make it more likely for them to visit your area every year.

### Butterfly Bush

Full Sun  
Height: 3-5'  
Water: Daily  
Well Drained Soil  
Mulch  
Perennial  
Blooms: Mid-Summer to Fall

Drought Resistant



### Lobelia

Full Sun  
Height: 24-36"  
Feed once a moth  
Water: Weekly  
Perennial  
Blooms: Summer



**Zinnia**  
Full Sun  
Height: 12-36"  
Water: once or twice per week  
Annual  
Blooms: Summer to Fall  
Remove spent flowers

### Salvia

Full Sun  
Height: 24-36"  
Water: Weekly  
Perennial  
Bloom: Spring to Fall  
Remove spent flowers



### Bee Balm

Full Sun  
Height: 3-4'  
Water: Daily  
Moisture Soil  
Perennial  
Blooms: Summer  
Divide every 3-5 years



### Petunia

Full Sun  
Height: 12-15"  
Water: 2-3 times per week  
Feed weekly  
Annual  
Blooms: Summer to Fall  
Cut back to avoid leggy appearance.

Hummingbirds are able to see colors near the ultraviolet spectrum, enabling them to see more colors than humans.