Hummingbird Plants for the Vancouver/Portland Area Cont.

Shrubs	
Abelia	*Abelia spp.*
Strawberry	*Arbutus unedo compacta*
Hairy Manzanita	*Arctostaphylos* *
Media Manzanita	*Arctostaphylos media* *
Manzanita	*Arctostaphvlos spp.*
Kinnikinnik	*Arctostaphylos uva-ursi*
Siberian Pea	*Caragana arborescens*
Chinese Redbud	*Cercis chinensis* 'Avondale'
Western Redbud	*Cercis occidentalis*
Flowering Quince	*Chaenomeles japonica*
Cotoneaster	*Cotoneaster spp.*
Toyon	*Heteromeles arbutifolia*
Rose of Sharon	*Hibiscus syriacus*
Oceansprav	*Holodiscus discolor* *
Jasmine	*Jasminium floridum*
Beautv Bush	*Kolkwitzia amabilis*
English Lavender	*Lavandula angustifolia*
Twinberrv	*Lonicera involucrata* *
Tatarian Honeysuckle	*Lonicera tatarica*
Shrubby Penstemon	*Penstemon rupicola* *
Golden Currant	*Ribes aureum* *
Lobb's Gooseberry	*Ribes lobbii*
Red Flower Currant	*Ribes sanquineum* *
Rosemary	*Rosmarinum officinalis*

Common Name	*Botanical*
Thimbleberrv	*Rubus parviflora* *
Salmonberry	*Rubus spectabilis* *
Red Elderberry	*Sambucus racemosa* *
Elderberry	*Sambucus spp.*
Spirea	*Spiraea spp.* *
Snowberry	*Symphoricarpos albus* *
Blueberry	*Vaccinium corymbosum*
.Evergreen Huckleberry	*Vaccinium ovatum* *
Red Huckleberry	*Vaccinium parvi florum* *
Weigela	*Weigela spp.*
Vines	
Trumpet Creeper	*Campsis radicans*
Native Clematis	*Clematis liqusticifolia* *
Eccremocarpus	*Eccremocarvus scaber*
Hop	*Humulus lup ulus*
Morning Glory	*Ivomea coccinea*
Cardinal Climber	*Ipomoea coccinea*
Orange Honeysuckle	*Lonicera ciliosa*
Coral Honeysuckle	*Lonicera heckrottii*
Japanese Honeysuckle	*Lonicera jap. purpurea*
Woodbine	*Lonicera perclymenum*
Trumpet Honeysuckle	*Lonicera sempervirens*
Scarlet Runner Bean	*Phaseolus coccineus*

* = Northwest Native Plant

The "Hummer-Insect" Connection

Ever wonder how hummers survive a late season cold snap? With no flowers blooming to provide nectar, how are they sustaining their high energy nutritional needs so early in the year? One needs to look no farther than their own yard. The secret…**INSECTS!** Like most of our songbirds, hummers are insectivores. In fact, insects account for a great deal of the hummer's diet well into April. Insects play an ongoing role for hummers throughout the growing season. Hummingbirds are also aided by the dedicated & knowledgeable individuals putting out feeders the first week of March, but this is more of an aid than the sole reason why hummers are able to withstand our early spring.

In addition to sustaining them in early spring, insects are also important during nesting season. A great deal of a nestling's diet for the first couple of days is insects and continues to be a large part of the diet until they leave the nest. Insects provide the vital protein & fat critical for growth. As the days go by, nectar brought by the mother becomes the bulk of the diet. The high energy nectar plays an important role for "practice flying" up until the nestling fledges (leaves the nest). Insects also come to the rescue during blooming lulls throughout the growing season. And finally, when the Rufous Hummingbird begins its long migration back to Mexico, insects again help sustain them, filling in gaps between nectar stops.

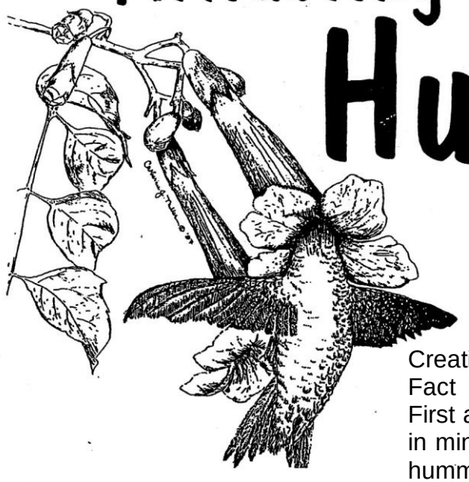
Surprisingly, the Rufous Hummingbird is not really the first hummingbird to arrive in spring. Actually, Anna's Hummingbirds call the Willamette and Puget Sound valleys home year round. And, again, insects play a pivotal role!

For more information, visit our website at **www.naturescaping.org,** call us at **(360) 737-1160**, or email us at **info@naturescaping.org.** Make a contribution, or become a member of the NatureScaping and attend classes free all year. You'll also receive our quarterly newsletter with articles on wildlife, gardening, and news of the Wildlife Botanical Gardens.

Mailing address for NatureScaping of SWWA is **PO Box 763, Brush Prairie, WA** 98606

The Wildlife Botanical Gardens are located at 11000 NE 149th St, Brush Prairie, WA 98606

Attracting Hummingbirds



Creating A Hummingbird Garden

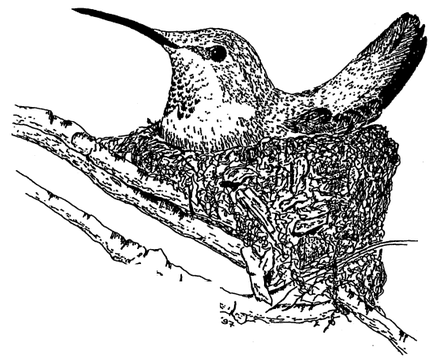
by Jeff Wittler

Illustrations by Catherine J. Miller-Smith

Creating a hummingbird garden is easier than you might think. Fact is - most homeowners may already have a decent start. First and foremost, the aspiring hummingbird gardener needs to keep in mind the essential canons of wildlife gardening: all birds, including hummingbirds, have the basic needs of **food, water, shelter, and space**. A well-planned hummingbird garden will fulfill these needs and in turn provides the gardener with many hours of enjoyment and entertainment as well as valuable tools in connecting us with our natural world. With some basic planning, patience, and a little luck, your yard can be transformed into a mecca for hummingbirds. As with all types of landscaping you need to take a good look at what already exists. If you already have hummingbirds, what plants are they visiting? Whether you're starting fresh or just working on a corner of the backyard-begin with a sketch of existing elements-house, driveway, lawn, and the plants you intend to keep. Be sure to keep in mind what your needs are too! Do you have children? Where do you want them to play? Once you've finished your inventory and base map, be sure to make copies. Use the copies of your renderings, leaving the original unmarked. This lets you go through a progression of changes without having to redraw your base map. Whether you're landscaping your whole yard or just plants around your deck, this process will help save you time and frustration.

Layering

A key component of any hummingbird garden is layering. A well layered garden is not only visually pleasing to us but more attractive to hummingbirds. Plant layering—using shorter plants in the foreground with progressively taller and larger plants toward the back or middle—will provide for better viewing. This not only gives you an unobstructed view of the garden but also the hummers themselves. Layering also allows the garden to be more accessible to the hummers. Though hummers are precision flying machines, they still need room to maneuver. If foliage interferes too much with their wings



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Hummingbird Feeder Maintenance

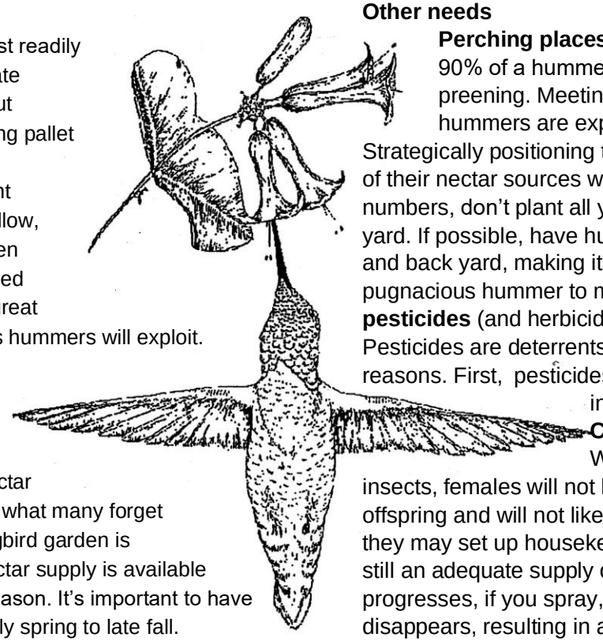
Feeders should be cleaned every three or four days with dish soap and hot water to remove mold. For very tough mold use a little sand and shake vigorously. It helps to keep feeders in a shaded but easily found location like under a tree - this helps to prevent mold growth. Feeders can be put up the end of February just in time for the first Rufous Hummingbird arrivals. Also, consider leaving your feeder up during winter, as you may be rewarded with a visit from an Anna's Hummingbird—a year round resident in our area. It's a myth that hummers won't migrate if feeders are left up too late in the year. Other influences such as temperature and sun positioning are the determining factors for onset of migration. Hummingbird solution should be 4 parts water to 1 part sugar. Do not use honey, NutraSweet, or red dye or any other chemical additive.

Creating a Hummingbird Garden – continued…

and maneuvering; the amount of energy expended for nectar acquired may not be reward enough for visiting those plants. And finally, a well layered concentrated display of color is much more difficult for foraging hummers to pass up.

Flowers

It's true, hummers are most readily drawn to and will investigate anything red or orange. But don't restrict your gardening pallet to just these colors. Hummers will also frequent flowers of purple, blue, yellow, even white, especially when used in combination with red and orange. There are a great number of non-red flowers hummers will exploit.



Blooming Times

Most realize that perennials and annuals are the most important nectar sources for hummers, but what many forget when planning a hummingbird garden is making sure adequate nectar supply is available throughout the growing season. It's important to have flowers blooming from early spring to late fall. Hummers prefer small, compact, flower-rich territories. If they can find a steady stream of nectar-producing flowers throughout the growing season they are much more likely to call your home their home! That's especially true of nesting female hummers. Noted hummingbird researcher, Crawford Greenwalt, found that areas with a diverse, concentrated, and pesticide free array of nectar producing plants had a higher than normal occurrence of nesting hummers.

Don't forget trees and shrubs

As mentioned above, perennials and annuals are the most important nectar sources. Trees and shrubs are also important, but not just for nectar. They provide important shelter for roosting and protection from climate and weather and also offer critical nesting habitat. Many gardeners have planted spectacular perennial gardens and wonder why they rarely see female hummingbirds in their nests. (One reason is that the nest is incredibly hard to find!) The primary answer is lack of appropriate nesting areas, although hummers have been known to nest in such public places as on top of outdoor lighting and even in hanging baskets.

Nearby thickets, trees, and shrubs are much more desirable to would-be nesters. These trees can provide more than just shelter. Close to a hundred trees and shrubs that are hardy in the Pacific Northwest provide usable amounts of nectar. (See section on hummingbird plants for a sampling of these species)

Other needs

Perching places are another critical need. Up to 90% of a hummer's time is spent either perching, or preening. Meeting this need is important if hummers are expected to stay in your yard. Strategically positioning trees and shrubs within 20-40 feet of their nectar sources will do nicely. To increase hummer numbers, don't plant all your flowers in one location of your yard. If possible, have hummingbird areas in both the front and back yard, making it more difficult for a sole pugnacious hummer to monopolize your whole yard. **Avoid pesticides** (and herbicides) as much as possible. Pesticides are deterrents to hummers for a number of reasons. First, pesticides limit a major food source, insects **(**see **Hummer-Insect Connection** article on back). Without an adequate source of insects, females will not be able to meet the needs of their offspring and will not likely nest in your yard. Worse yet, they may set up housekeeping in your yard while there is still an adequate supply of insects. As the season progresses, if you spray, suddenly their food source disappears, resulting in a failed nest. Hummers are very sensitive, highly tuned machines. Ingestion of foreign substances (especially chemicals) through tainted nectar or direct contact can have a pronounced effect on their own health and that of their offspring.

Whenever possible, **use native plants** when developing your hummingbird oasis. As with all wildlife, hummers have evolved with plants indigenous to their range. Not only are hummers well acquainted with them, natives are also acclimatized to our weather patterns, making for a healthier plant and thereby reducing the need for pesticides and herbicides.

Human's fascination with hummers is undeniable, whether it's their beauty, flying ability, fearless nature, pugnacity, or a combination of all the above, we are all hummer junkies. By creating a hummingbird haven you'll ensure never having to suffer withdrawal symptoms.

References

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- Hummingbirds & How to Attract Them — WA Dept. of Wildlife
- The Hummingbird Book — Donald & Lillian Stokes
- The Way of the Hummingbird — Virginia Holmgren
- Hummingbirds: Jewels in Flight — Connie Toops
- Western Garden Book — Sunset
- Western Birds Field Guide — Roger Tory Peterson
- Landscaping for Wildlife in the PNW — Link

NatureScaping

Hummingbird Plants for the Vancouver/Portland Area

Common Name	*Botanical*	
Annuals		
Snapdragon	*Antirrhinum majus*	
Begonia	*Beionia spp.*	
Farewell to Spring	*Clarkia pulchella*	*
Red Ribbins	*Clarkia spp*	
Spider Flower	*Cleome hasslerana*	
Annual Larkspur	*Consolida ambiqua*	
Scarlet Larkspur	*Delphinium cardinale*	
Sweet William	*Dianthus barbatus*	
Fuchsias	*Fuchsias spp.*	
Scarlet Gillia	*Gilia aggregata,*	*
Impatiens	*Impatiens capensis*	
New Guinea Impatiens	*Impatiens "New Guinea"*	
Lantana	*Lantana camera*	
Lobelia	*Lobelia erinus*	
Monkey Flower	*Mimulus hybridus*	
Flowering Tobacco	*Nicotiana spp.*	
Geranium	*Pelargonium hybrids*	
Phlox (Tall)	*Phlox drummondii*	
Scarlet Sage	*Salvia splendens*	
Pincushion Flower	*Scabiosa spp*	
Nasturtium	*Tropaeolum spp.*	
Zinnia	*Zinnia elegans*	
Perennials		
Carpet Bugle	*Ajuga reptans*	
Hollyhock	*Alcea rosea*	
Peruvian Lily	*Alstroemeria spp.*	
Alyssum	*Alyssum spp.*	*
Rocky Mtn. Columbine	*Aquilegia caerulea*	
Western Columbine	*Aquilegia formosa*	*
Columbine	*Aquilegia spp*	
Butterfly Weed	*Aselepias tuberosa*	
Bluebell	*Campanula ssp.*	
Canna	*Canna spp*	
Indian Paintbrush	*Castilleja spp.*	*
Montbretia	*Crocosmia crocosmiflora*	
Western Hound's Tongue	*Cynoglossum grande*	*
Larkspur	*Delphinium glaucom*	*
Scarlet Larkspur	*Delphinium nudicaule*	*
Larkspur	*Delphinium nuttallianum*	*
Delphinium	*Delphinium spp.*	
Pink	*Dianthus spp.*	
Fringed Bleeding Heart	*Dicentra eximia*	
Western Bleeding Heart	*Dicentra formosa*	*
Luxuriant Bleeding Heart	*Dicentra luxuriant*	
Common Bleeding Heart	*Dicentra spectabilis*	
Firecracker plant	*Dichelostemma (Brodiaca) ida-maia*	
Strawberry Foxglove	*Digitalis spp*	
Fireweed	*Epilobium augustifolium*	*

Perennials		
Fritillary	*Fritillaria spp.*	*
Hardy Fucbsia	*Fuchsia magellanica*	
Hardy Fuchsia	*Fuchsia riccartoni*	
Satin Flower	*Godetia grandiflora*	
Daylily	*Hemerocallis spp*	
Dame's Rocket	*Hesperis matronalis*	
Coral Bells	*Heuchera sanquinea*	
Rose Mallow	*Hibiscus moscheutos*	
Iris	*Iris spp.*	
Red Hot Poker	*Kniphofia uvaria*	
Blazing Star	*Liatris spicata*	
Tiger Lily	*Lilium columbianum*	*
Lily	*Lilium speciosum rubrum*	
Cardinal Flower	*Lobelia cardinalis*	
Lupine	*Lupinus spp.*	
Rose Campion	*Lychnis coronaria*	
Maltese Cross	*Lychnis spp*	
Lungwort (Mt. Bluebell)	*Mertensia ssp.*	*
Monkey Flower	*Mimulus spp.*	*
Four O'clock	*Mirabilis jalapa*	
Bee Balm	*Monarda didyrna*	
Bee Balm	*Monarda fistulosa*	
Penstemon	*Penstemon spp.*	*
Phlox	*Phlox spp.*	
Cape Fuchsia	*Phygelius capensis*	
Lungwort	*Pulmonaria spp.*	
Pincushion Flower	*Scabiosa caucasica*	*
Pincushion Flower	*Scabiosa columbria*	
Moss Campion	*Silene acaulis*	*
Cooleys Hedge-nettle	*Stachys cooleyae*	*
Verbena	*Verbena spp.*	
Speedwell	*Veronica spp.*	
California Fuchsia	*Zauschneria californica*	*
Trees		
California Buckeye	*Aesculus caljfornica*	
Red Horsechestnut	*Aesculus carnea 'Briotii'*	
Red Buckeye	*Aesculus pavia*	
Silk Tree	*Albizia julibrissi*	
Pacific Madrone	*Arbutus menziesii*	*
Strawberry Tree	*Arbutus unedo*	
Catalpa	*Catalpa .spp.*	
Black Hawthorn	*Crataegus douglasii*	*
Hawthorn	*Crataegus spp.*	
Tulip Tree	*Liriodendron tulipfera*	
Flowering Crabapple	*Malus spp reds &pinks*	
Flowering Crabapple	*Malus fusca*	
Chinaberry	*Melia azedarach*	
Black Locust	*Robinia pseudoacacia*	
California Laurel	*Umbellularia californica*	
Chaste Tree	*Vitex agnus-castus*	

* = Northwest Native