

Hummingbird Plants



“Plants That Attract Hummingbirds”

Annuals

Abutilon
Agapanthus
Agastache
Balsam
Bromeliads
Canna
Cardinal Climber (Vine)
Cestrum
Cleome
Cuphea-cigar plant
Cross Vine
Cypress Vine
Dicliptera suberecta
Eucalyptus
Four-o-clocks
Fuchsia
Hamelia patens
Impatiens
Lantana
Mandevilla Vine
Morning glory (Vine)
Nasturtium
Nicotiana
Pentas
Petunia
Salvia
Scarlet Runner Bean
Shrimp Plant
Snapdragons
Verbena
Wax Begonia
Zinnia



Perennials

Alcea
Althea
Aquilegia
Asclepias
Campanula
Campsis-trumpet vine
Clematis
Crococsmia
Delphinium
Dianthus
Dicentra
Digitalis
Epimedium
Hemerocallis
Heuchera
Hibiscus
Hosta
Iris
Liatris
Lilium
Lobelia
Lupinus
Lychnis
Monarda
Nepeta
Papaver
Pelargonium
Penstemon
Phlox paniculata
Physostegia
Salvia
Saponaria
Scabiosa
Symphytum (comfrey)
Vinca major

Trees

Aesculus carnea Red Horsechestnut
Aesculus flava Yellow Buckeye
Aesculus pavia Red-Flowering Buckeye
Cercis canadensis Redbud
Cornus florida Flowering Dogwood
Crateagus spp. Hawthorne
Liriodendron tulipifera Tuliptree
Magnolia virginiana Sweet Bay Magnolia
Prunus serotina Wild Black Cherry
Salix spp. Willow
Stewartia psedocamellia Japanese Stewartis

Shrubs

Abelia grandifora Glossy Abelia
Azalea exbury Deciduous Azalea var.
Buddlleia Butterfly Bush
Caryopteris B lue Spiraea/Blue Mist Shrub
Clethra alnifolia Hummingbird Summersweet
Hibiscus syricas Rose of Sharon
Kolwitzia amabilis Beautybush
Lindera benzoin Spice Bush
Ribes sanguineum Red-Flowering Currant
Rhododendron Rhododendron
Sambucus racemosa Elderberry
Syringa vulgaris Common Lilac (most varieties)
Viburnun spp. Viburnum

This fact sheet serves to assist Knox County citizens in living within their natural world and is provided by the Knox County Park District.

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The Hummingbird Scene

If you want to attract hummingbirds the natural way, plant their favorite plants. They don't have a sense of smell; they do have great eyesight, and red is their slight favorite, (but other colors will do just fine). Research has shown that hummingbirds can see the color red, especially a large area of it, from over a half a mile away.

As you're planning your hummingbird garden, try to provide a succession of red, orange and pink flowering plants. You're sure to lure migrating hummingbirds to stop along the way, and you'll keep your yard filled with hummingbird activity throughout the growing season and well into fall.

Don't forget to provide convenient perches nearby, since 80% of the time hummingbirds rest from all that wing action. Shrubs are a natural fit for this job. When the nectar-rich flowers fade, they provide perches, cover and even nesting areas.

This fact sheet contains some of hummingbirds' favorite nectar flowers. Happy gardening and keep your eyes on your hummingbird plants.

Top Twenty Hummingbird Plants*

Trumpet Creeper (*Campsis radicans*)
Beebalm or Oswego Tea (*Monarda didyma*)
Trumpet Honeysuckle (*Lonicera sempervirens*)
Cardinal Flower (*Lobelia cardinalis*)
Spotted Jewelweed (*Impatiens capensis*)
Red Columbine (*Aquilegia canadense*)
Canada Lily (*Lilium canadense*)
Indian Pink (*Spigelia marilandica*)
Red Buckeye (*Aesculus pavia*)
Rosebay or Catawba Rhododendron (*Rhododendron catawbiense*)
Pineapple Sage (*Salvia elegans*)
Giant Blue Sage (*Salvia guaranitica*)
Cypress Vine (*Ipomoea quamoclit*)
Shrimp Plant (*Justicia brandegeana*)
Mimosa or Silk tree (*Albizia julibrissin*)
Shrub Verbena (*Lantana camara*)
Butterfly Bush (*Buddleia davidii*)
Rose of Sharon (*Hibiscus syriacus*)
Common Foxglove (*Digitalis purpurea*)
Cigar Plant (*Cuphea ignea*)



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* Source: *Operation Ruby Throat*, the first ten plants listed are native species.

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