Hummingbirds in your Garden

Creating a home …

• Select diverse flowering plants in different sizes and shapes including shrubs and small trees for shelter, shade and nesting (out of reach of cats).

• Leave bare branches for perching and survey of territory.

• Choose plants that will produce colorful, tubular nectar-filled flowers that will bloom at different times of year.

• Provide slow moving, shallow or misted water for bathing.

• Do not spray for spiders. Hummingbirds use their webs, in addition to cottony leaf hairs and silky fibers from airborne seeds, to construct and camouflage nests.

Did you know?

• Hummingbirds move pollen when they visit flowers to get nectar.

• Hummingbirds populations are threatened by habitat loss like other creatures.

• Hummingbirds are the smallest birds in the world and only occur in the Americas.

• They can hover in place, fly backwards and fly upside down.

• They need to eat on average seven times an hour, gathering nectar and catching small insects.

• Hummingbirds are easy to attract and fun to watch. The same birds may come back every year!
Anna’s hummingbirds live in the Sacramento Valley year round so plan your garden to provide blooms throughout the year. During migration (primarily March and April) there are five other species you may see, so keep an eye out!

### Plants to Attract Hummingbirds

#### Winter and Spring
- **Correa species**
  - Australian fuchsia
- **Ribes malvaceum**
  - foothill current
- **Kniphofia 'Christmas Cheer'**
  - red-hot poker
- **Salvia spathacea**
  - hummingbird sage

#### Summer
- **Hesperalo parviflora**
  - coral yucca
- **Penstemon species and cultivars**
  - beardtongue
- **Chilopsis linearis**
  - desert willow

#### Fall
- **Epilobium canum**
  - California fuchsia
- **Salvia greggii, many kinds**
  - sage
- **Abutilon species and cultivars**
  - flowering maple*

*provides year-round bloom, but needs more water

### References

UC Davis Veterinary Medicine website:


Plant photos: Ellen Zagory (unless otherwise noted)