

Although many plants attract hummingbirds, the best attractors are tubular in shape, and many (but not all) are red. Remember to provide a nectar source from late spring through first frost, and convenient places for hummingbirds to nest and perch. Hummingbirds also need a water source, such as sprinklers. Keep in mind that many pesticides kill the small insects that hummingbirds rely on for protein sources. Avoid spraying the flowers hummingbirds are frequenting, or remove flowers until chemical residues are no longer present. Please ask at our Information desk if you have any questions.



We have provided a list of sun and shade loving perennials, which attract hummingbirds. Remember, many plants are subject to seasonal availability. We do our best to carry these plants whenever available.



SUN PERENNIALS

Agastache- **Anise Hyssop.** Flowers July – Sept. Well drained soil, avoid wet feet. Flower color ranges from light blue to pink and orange. Size varies from 18-36” tall and wide.

Alcea **Hollyhock.** Usually a biennial blooming in the second year. Many large single or double flowers up a tall stalk. Best in a sunny, well drained site. Blooms July – Sept. Grows to 5-7’ tall and wide.

Crococsmia- **Crococsmia.** A late summer bloomer (July - September) that is a hummingbird favorite. Tubular orange to yellow flowers range in size from 12”-4’ tall and spreading.

Delphinium. Various colors of flowers ranging from white to blue. All prefer fertile, well-drained soil. Cut Delphinium back and tidy after blooming in June for a second bloom in September. Size ranges form 2-6’ tall and 2-3’ wide.

Digitalis- **Foxglove-** Grows best in a woodland setting, but adapts well to border conditions. Deadheading encourages continuing bloom. All species self-seed, and are biennial (blooms the second year). A huge range of colors from rust and yellow to pinks and purples. Blooms June - August. Size varies from 12”-7’ tall and 12-18” wide.



Hemerocallis- **Daylily.** Large blooms in warm colors ranging from yellow to maroon. The many varieties bloom at different times, and combine well to extend the bloom season from May - August. Size ranges from 12” – 36” tall and wide.

Kniphofia-**Red-hot Poker.** Spikes of orange/yellow flowers July – Sept. Size varies from 24-40” tall by 18-24” wide.

Lupinus- **Lupine.** These plants grow best in deep, rich, neutral or acidic soil. Good drainage is essential. Spikes of blooms June through July. Size range 18-40” t by 12”w.

Monarda- **Bee-Balm.** Shaggy pincushion flowers bloom June – Sept. A wide variety of bright colors. Best in rich, moist, well-drained soil. Watch for powdery mildew on foliage. Size ranges from 30-48” tall and 18” wide.

Nepeta- **Catmint.** 6’t/w. Spikes of blue to purple flowers June – Sept. Moderately drought tolerant. Size varies from 12”-3’ tall and 12-18” wide.

Oenothera spp.- **Evening Primrose.** Yellow, cup-shape flowers June–Sept. Very tolerant of hot sites and lean, dry soil. 12-36” tall and wide.

Penstemon-**Beard-Tongue.** Spikes of tubular throated flowers June – August. Incredible color choices ranging from almost black, blue, purple, rose, pink or white. Needs excellent drainage.

Phlox- A large genus with plants ranging from ground cover to 3’ cut flowers. Color ranges from blue to bright pink. Best in rich moist soil. Blooms June – July.



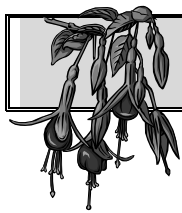
Phygelius- **Cape Fuchsia.** Spikes of tubular flowers in orange, pink and yellow tones July – Oct. Excellent container plants for the deck or patio. Size ranges 3-5’t/w

Physostegia -**Obedient Plant.** Spikes of pink or white flowers July – Sept. Useful as a background plant in the perennial border. Size ranges 18”-3’t/w.

Salvia- **Sage.** Hummingbirds love sages with red, pink or dark blue flowers. Most sages are summer bloomers. *S. guaranitica* is a tall (3-5’) electric blue. *S. buchanii* is a tender sage.

Scabiosa- **Pincushion Flower.** Round, flat, quilled flowers bloom through the season. Deadheading will encourage blooms into fall. Size: 12-34”t/12-24”w.

Veronica- Upright varieties have long spikes in shades of blue, pink and white from early summer to first frost. Grows best in well-drained soil.



SHADE PERENNIALS FOR HUMMINGBIRDS

Fuchsia- Enjoy pendulous flowers and hummingbirds from early summer until hard frost. A variety of flower colors from white to orange, pink and purple. Best in part-shade with moist soil. Huge size range from 6"-7' tall and wide.

Heuchera- Coral Bells. *Heuchera* is most effective in the front of the perennial border, or in a rockery. Delicate sprays of flowers and attractive leaves are best at close range. Wispy pink or white flowers bloom June – July.

Hosta- Plantain lily. A large group of perennials that thrives in moist, well-drained soil. Golden leaved and variegated varieties are generally more sun tolerant than green and blue leaved types. White or lavender, trumpet-shaped flowers in summer. Size varies from 3"-48" tall and wide.



ESTABLISHING HUMMINGBIRD PERENNIALS

The keys to successfully establishing perennials are conditioning the soil and regular watering. Before you put a plant in the ground, add compost to the planting area because our soil is often heavy clay. We recommend 1/3 compost to 2/3 existing soil. It is even important to amend on a sloped site to ensure some water will get to the plant roots.

Water is especially important in the first season while the plants are settling in. We recommend watering new perennials about once a week during the growing season. Water slowly so it does not flow off. Soaker hoses are ideal for perennial gardens. In the heat of the summer, perennial beds may need more water.

When planting new perennials, mix in a little bone meal in the bottom of the hole. Water in with a fish and kelp mixture.

Mulching beds helps maintain soil moisture, and promotes healthy soil microbes. We recommend mulching with compost at least once a year in the fall. In addition, the compost will provide food for the perennials as they emerge in the spring.

Compiled by Hiyori Saito

Humming birds

Welcoming hummingbirds into your garden



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