

Ruby-throated Hummingbird is Minnesota's only breeding hummingbird, arriving statewide in early May and building to a statewide peak of 29% of checklists in the fourth week of August. The south (Twin Cities, Rochester) arrives and leaves about a week ahead of the north (Duluth, the North Shore). **Rufous** is a genuine, recurring fall rarity around Duluth, and **Anna's** produced a remarkable one-year spike in November 2023 — both real, but neither an expectable bird.

Feeders up by the last week of April statewide, since the arrival happens fast once it starts. Photograph any hummingbird you see after October — Minnesota has no regular winter presence at all.

SPRING *Apr – May* — still quiet in April, then the real arrival, south first.

What to do Check last year's feeder for cracked seals and worn ports before the first scout turns up. **AspenPerch®** has a built-in ant moat and Polyperch® comfort perch.

APRIL

–Still quiet; the first faint signal appears in the south, final week.

MAY

–The real arrival — south first week, north about a week behind.

JUNE

–Nesting settles in; the state's only Calliope record falls here.

SUMMER *Jun – Aug* — nesting, then the climb to the statewide peak.

What to do Nesting females need calcium; migrating birds need volume. **Pop's Nectar** carries calcium and electrolytes — step up to the 2lb **Nectarlyte®** for the August surge.

JULY

–Building steadily; the state's only Broad-billed record falls here.

AUGUST

–The statewide peak (29%); several counties run even higher.

SEPTEMBER

–Hennepin's own peak lands here; a fast decline everywhere else.

FALL *Sep – Nov* — the exit, fast — then a remarkable rarity month.

What to do October is planting month — sow the **Perfect Little Sanctuary®** wildflower blend now for the cold, moist winter native seed needs before spring bloom.

OCTOBER

–Ruby-throated mostly gone; Rufous's real fall signal builds.

NOVEMBER

–Statewide silence for Ruby-throated; **Anna's** single-year spike.

DECEMBER

–A last trace of Rufous, then true winter quiet.

WINTER *Jan – Mar* — genuinely zero — no regular winter presence at all.

What to do A hummingbird seen January through March is a real rarity, not a late-lingering Ruby-throated — worth a photo and a report, every time.

JANUARY

–Genuinely zero statewide, in every county we track.

FEBRUARY

–Still zero — no regular winter presence anywhere in Minnesota.

MARCH

–Zero through the month; April's first faint signal is still weeks off.

