

Ruby-throated Hummingbird is New Hampshire's only breeding hummingbird. First scouts reach the south in the last week of April, every county has birds by the first week of May, and numbers peak in the third week of August at 29% of checklists before the state empties out by late September, Coos County first. **Rufous** is the only rare visitor that has come back more than once.

Feeders up by late April statewide — the first birds reach the Merrimack Valley and seacoast in the last week of April, Coos County a week later. Leave one feeder up into October.

SPRING *Mar – May* — the whole state arrives inside two weeks, south to north.

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.

MARCH

–Quiet — nothing recorded anywhere in the state.

APRIL

–First scouts in the last week, south of the notches; Coos not yet.

MAY

–6% in week one, 20% by week three — the seacoast's busiest weeks.

SUMMER *Jun – Aug* — a June lull, then the climb to the year's 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.

JUNE

–The lull: 13–14% statewide as the wave settles in.

JULY

–Climbing week by week, 16% to 21% by the last week.

AUGUST

–The peak — 29% in week three; Hillsborough and Strafford top 31%.

FALL *Sep – Nov* — a fast exit — the mountains first, the south a week later.

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.

SEPTEMBER

–24% in week one, then the exit: mountains by mid-month, the south a week later.

OCTOBER

–A few stragglers in week one, then gone — feeder down after a quiet week.

NOVEMBER

–The state's one Anna's (2020) and one Calliope (2013) both came in Oct–Nov.

WINTER *Dec – Feb* — the month a Rufous has turned up — otherwise empty.

What to do A hummingbird at a New Hampshire feeder in December is almost certainly a Rufous. Keep the nectar from freezing, photograph it, and report it — every record is reviewed.

DECEMBER

–**Rufous** is the December bird — a Stoddard feeder hosted one into mid-Dec 2025.

JANUARY

–No hummingbirds recorded in the state.

FEBRUARY

–Still empty — feeders can wait until late April.

