

### Ruby-throated Hummingbird

New Jersey's only breeding hummingbird. Found statewide in the Coastal Plain, Piedmont, and Highlands.

BREEDER

### Rufous Hummingbird

The state's most frequent rare visitor. Fall and sometimes winter, almost entirely coastal.

RARE

**Allen's, Calliope, and a single accepted Broad-billed** round out the state's genuine rarities. Allen's and Rufous concentrate almost entirely in Cape May and Atlantic counties — consistent with Cape May's role as a migrant funnel.



### NEW JERSEY'S RAREST OF THE RARE

New Jersey's most notable recent Calliope Hummingbird overwintered at a Point Pleasant feeder in **Ocean County** from November 2020 to April 2021 — not Cape May.

And the state's **only-ever Broad-billed Hummingbird** record, ever, was a single bird at Heislerville in Cumberland County in November 2022.



### A REAL COASTAL-TO-INLAND GAP

| COUNTY | RELIABLY COMMON BY |
|--------|--------------------|
|--------|--------------------|

|                                  |                    |
|----------------------------------|--------------------|
| Cape May<br>(far south, coastal) | Last week of April |
|----------------------------------|--------------------|

|                           |                    |
|---------------------------|--------------------|
| Atlantic<br>(mid coastal) | Last week of April |
|---------------------------|--------------------|

|                             |                 |
|-----------------------------|-----------------|
| Essex<br>(NYC metro, north) | 2nd week of May |
|-----------------------------|-----------------|

|                                  |                 |
|----------------------------------|-----------------|
| Sussex<br>(NW Highlands, inland) | 2nd week of May |
|----------------------------------|-----------------|

A genuine two-to-three-week gap, consistent with migration advancing northward and lagging at higher latitude/elevation.

# New Jersey



### FEEDER CARE BASICS

|                            |                                      |
|----------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| Nectar ratio               | 4 parts water : 1 part sugar         |
| Red dye                    | Never needed                         |
| Feeder up statewide        | By mid-April                         |
| Change nectar (above 90°F) | Every 1–2 days                       |
| Change nectar (below 70°F) | Every 5–6 days                       |
| Pest control               | No insecticide — use HummGuard™ tips |



### TOP NATIVE PLANTS

#### BEST STATEWIDE

Eastern Columbine

Cardinal Flower

Bee Balm

Coral Honeysuckle

Butterfly Weed

Rutgers recommends planting species with bloom times spanning late spring through early fall, in conspicuous clumps of the same species or color — hummingbirds spot solid blocks of color far more easily than scattered single plants.



### PERFECT LITTLE SANCTUARY® — TOP NJ PERFORMERS

- ✓ Black-Eyed Susan — *New Jersey native*
- ✓ Perennial Lupine — *New Jersey native*
- ✓ Purple Coneflower — *eastern native, not all of NJ*

Nine of the blend's 12 varieties want cold, moist stratification — sow October–November statewide.



### RESOURCES

**Injured hummingbird?** NJ Dept. of Environmental Protection's rehabilitator locator is the official statewide tool. The Raptor Trust (Millington) and Songbirds at Home (Hopewell) both take in wild birds — confirm hummingbird intake directly before making the trip.

**Cape May Bird Observatory's** Songbird Stopover Project (8th season as of 2025) banded thousands of migrants each fall — 7 Ruby-throated Hummingbirds were banded in a single week during the 2025 season alone.