

Ruby-throated Hummingbird is Wisconsin's only confirmed breeder, and it arrives on nearly the same week statewide — from Lake Superior to the Illinois border. The real story is on the way out: most of the state empties by mid-September, but Dane County sees a genuine second act with Rufous Hummingbird, keeping feeders busy into November.

Feeders up by early May, nearly statewide at once. Down by mid-September everywhere except Dane County, where Rufous Hummingbird keeps things going into November.

SPRING *Mar – May* — quiet gives way to a fast, synchronized arrival

Set up before the wave arrives, not after. Wisconsin's hummingbirds show up within days of each other almost statewide — a swing out now gives them a comfortable place to claim as their own from day one. **Shop swings** →

MARCH

–Still quiet — no real signal yet

APRIL

–Last calm month before the wave

MAY

–Arrival completes statewide, nearly all at once, by mid-May

SUMMER *Jun – Aug* — a real nesting dip, then the year's busiest stretch

This is the month to be generous, not economical. Birds are fueling for the flight south — keep feeders topped up more often. **Shop Nectarlyte® 2lb** →

JUNE

–A real dip as nesting settles in — not birds leaving

JULY

–Numbers build back; watch for ants & bees

AUGUST

–Statewide peak — 30% of checklists, first week

FALL *Sep – Nov* — most of the state leaves fast; Dane County runs a month longer

This is the planting month. Sow native wildflower seed now for reliable bloom next spring. **Shop Perfect Little Sanctuary®** →

SEPTEMBER

–The big departure — most of the state leaves by mid-to-late month

OCTOBER

–Ruby-throated gone; Rufous's real season builds in Dane County

NOVEMBER

–Dane County's last stragglers, into early month

WINTER *Dec – Feb* — the quiet season, statewide, no real exceptions

Nothing hummingbird-specific to do this stretch — a good time to plan next year's setup before the spring rush.

DECEMBER

–Season's over, even in Dane County

JANUARY

–No real activity anywhere in the state

FEBRUARY

–Still nothing — the deepest quiet

