

Native Flowers for Attracting Hummingbirds

Prepared by Dana Kelley Bressette

Hummingbirds prefer tubular flowers with red, orange, or pink flowers; (sometimes combined with yellow). They are usually odorless and are borne either alone or in loose clusters, with flowers opening more or less horizontally. Pollen is transferred when protruding stamens and stigmas brush up against the hovering hummingbird as it sips nectar from the flowers. Rufous Hummingbirds seek out brightly colored flowers on their return journey from wintering in Mexico. Anna's Hummingbirds may stay year-round if the food supply is sufficient.

Hummingbird-adapted Flowers

Western Columbine, *Aquilegia Formosa*
Indian Paintbrushes, *Castilleja sp.*
Scarlet Gilia, *Ipomopsis aggregata*
Trumpet Honeysuckle, *Lonicera ciliosa*
Gummy Gooseberry, *Ribes lobbii*
Cooley's Hedgenettle, *Stachys cooleyae*

Transitional Hummingbird Flowers

Red Flowering Currant, *Ribes sanguineum* Gooseberries, *R. divaricatum* & *R. lacustre*
Jewelweeds *Impatiens capensis* & *I. noli-tangere*
Tiger Lily, *Lilium columbianum*
Salmonberry, *Rubus spectabilis*
Bee Balm, *Monarda didyma* & *M. fistulosa**

Flowers Visited by Hummingbirds and Insects

(loosely listed in order of preference;

Red, Pink & Tubular Flowers first, White & Blue flowers last!)

Trees, Shrubs, & Vines

Pacific Rhododendron, *Rhododendron macrophyllum*
Western Azalea, *Rhododendron occidentale*
Pacific Madrone, *Arbutus menziesii*
Salal, *Gaultheria shallon*
Huckleberries, *Vaccinium sp.*
Kinnikinnick & Manzanitas, *Arctostaphylos sp.*
Hairy Honeysuckle, *Lonicera hispidula*
Twinberry, *Lonicera involucrata*
Snowberry, *Symphoricarpos albus*
Indian Plum, *Oemleria cerasiformis*
Oregon Grapes, *Mahonia sp.*
Oceanspray, *Holodiscus discolor*
Serviceberry, *Amelanchier alnifolia*
Elderberries, *Sambucus sp.*
Deerbrushes, *Ceanothus sp.*
Western Crabapple, *Malus fusca*
Cascara, *Frangula (Rhamnus) purshiana*
Black Hawthorn, *Crataegus douglasii*
Dogwoods, *Cornus sp.*
Willows, *Salix sp.*
Birch, *Betula papyrifera*

Perennials & Annuals

Beardtongues, *Penstemon sp.*
Fireweed, *Chamerion (Epilobium) angustifolium*
Pink Monkey Flower, *Mimulus lewisii*
Rosy Twisted-stalk, *Streptopus lanceolatus*
Checkermallow, *Sidalcea sp.*
Scouler's Corydalis, *Corydalis scouleri*
Western Bleeding Heart, *Dicentra formosa*
Seathrift, *Armeria maritima*
Sea Blush, *Plectritis congesta*
Nodding Onion, *Allium cernuum*
Farewell-to-Spring, *Clarkia amoena*
Saxifrage sp.
Fringecup, *Tellima grandiflora*
Small Flowered Alumroot, *Heuchera micrantha*
Harebell, *Campanula rotundifolia*
Larkspurs, *Delphinium sp.*
Great Camas, *Camas leichtlinii*
Pacific hound's tongue *Cynoglossum grande*
Large-leaved Lupine, *Lupinus polyphyllus*
Goatsbeard, *Aruncus dioicus*
Goldenrod, *Solidago sp.*

Remember to provide habitat for insects—hummingbirds need to eat insects for protein too!

...Mosquitoes, gnats, fruit flies, aphids, flying ants, weevils, parasitic wasps, insect eggs—and more...

*USDA lists Bee Balm, *Monarda didyma*, as native in Mason County, but UW Herbarium does not; Wild Bergamot, *M. fistulosa*, is an inland species found in B.C but is scarce in Washington and Oregon.