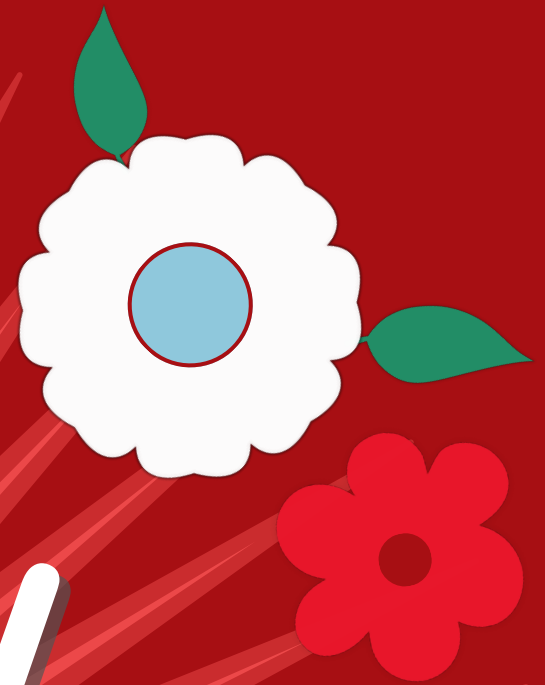
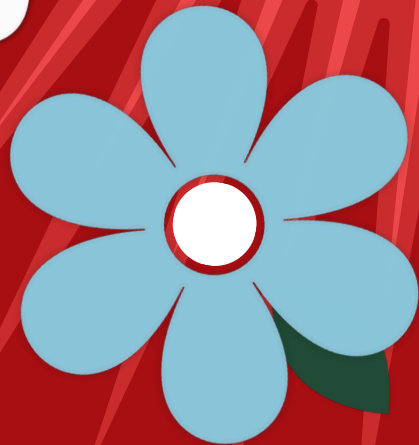


Hummingbird FAST FACTS



FACT:

Of the 15 hummingbird species found in the United States, the Ruby-throated Hummingbird is Indiana's only breeding species!



Recently the Rufous Hummingbird, a western species, has been showing up at feeders in the southeast and lower Midwest- that includes Indiana!



Ruby-throated Hummingbird | Jason Jablonski
Rufous Hummingbird | Ryan Sanderson

FACT:

The patch of glimmering feathers on a hummingbird's throat is called a "gorget"- named after a shiny neck covering that protected Medieval knights.



This patch of feathers reflects dazzling colors depending on how the light hits it.



Ruby-throated Hummingbird | Ryan Sanderson

FACT: Just like knights, hummingbirds are known to fight! Though they appear small and sweet, hummers will pick fights over resources- like a spot at your hummingbird feeder.



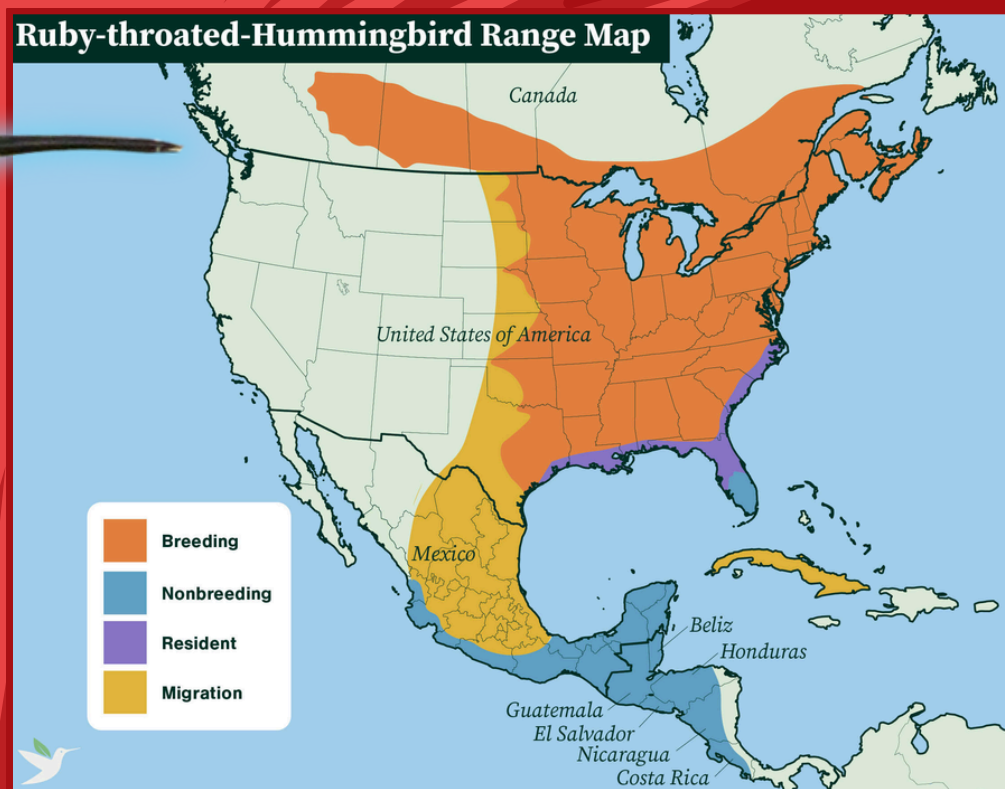
Some species go as far as to stab competition with their long beaks- yikes! Providing several sources of nectar can reduce their kerfuffles.

Ruby-throated Hummingbird | Jason Jablonski
Juvenile Rufous Hummingbird | Ryan Sanderson

FACT:

Hummingbirds are famous for their speedy, acrobatic flight—they can hover in midair and even fly backwards! They rest by perching in trees, however, with tiny feet, hummingbirds can not walk or hop!

Ruby-throated
Hummingbird |
Jason Jablonski
Range Map |
American Bird
Conservancy



Their flight is also powerful. Ruby-throated Hummingbirds may migrate up to 500 miles without stopping- that's an 18-20 hour trip!

FACT:

It's not a myth—hummingbirds love the color red. With little sense of smell, their vision directs them to sweet flowers. Red (and orange!) blooms contrast against green foliage, and tube-shaped flowers are perfect for long beaks.



Red dye, however, can hurt hummingbirds. Plant bright native flowers or put up a red-colored feeder instead.

FACT:

You can see these little
gems up close and learn
more on Saturday, August 9th, at
MARY GRAY BIRD SANCTUARY!



hmc25.eventbrite.com