



NEWS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Hummingbirds Return From Southern Winter Homes

Carmel, Indiana – Residents throughout the state are all abuzz because Ruby-throated Hummingbirds have been spotted in the area. These miniature marvels have been migrating between Central and North America for hundreds of years. This trip includes a trans-gulf, non-stop flight that takes approximately 18 – 22 hours and covers 500 to 600 miles.

“Tracking hummingbirds’ spring migration is one of the most popular activities of the bird feeding hobby,” stated John Schaust, Chief Naturalist at Wild Birds Unlimited Nature Shop. “People are fascinated with these tiny creatures. After all, they are the [smallest birds](#) on earth and are only found in the Americas.”

Backyards will be hosting these food-frenzied birds for the next several months. Hummingbirds possess the fastest metabolism of any warm-blooded animal on the planet, consuming up to twice their body weight in nectar (sugar water) every day. Homemade nectar solution can be created by mixing four parts water with one part sugar (granular table sugar works well).

“We recommend that you boil the water to eliminate any impurities and then add the sugar,” shared Schaust. “Let the mixture completely cool before serving it in a hummingbird feeder.”

Despite popular belief, hummingbirds do not suck up nectar with their bills. They actually lap it up with their tongues, drawing nectar from its source up and into their mouths almost 12 times a second.

Wild Birds Unlimited is the original and largest franchise system of backyard bird feeding and nature specialty stores with more than 275 locations throughout the United States and Canada. Wild Birds Unlimited specializes in bringing people and nature together with bird feeding and nature products, expert advice and educational events. Visit the Web site, and shop online at www.wbu.com

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