

Trees and Other Landscaping For Birds

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Full legend at
www.mrlc.gov



Forests in Kentucky

Kentucky is comprised of 49% forested habitat

Cultivated Crops

Deciduous Forest

Pasture and Hay

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Forests and Birds

A lot of different bird species present within Kentucky

Forests and Birds

- Can be migratory, seasonal residents, or non-migratory residents
 - >350 total species
 - ~150 breeding species
 - >200 winter residents or migrating through the state



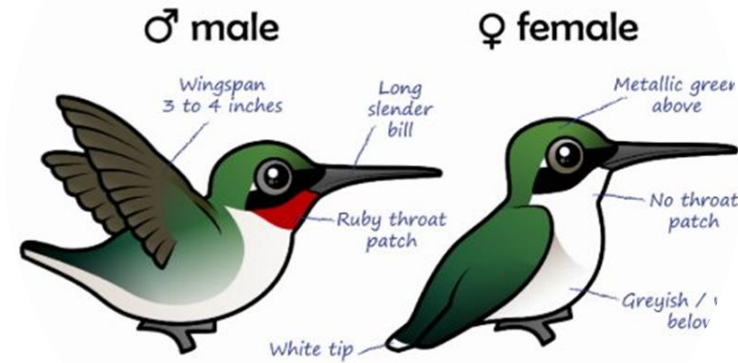


Forests and Birds

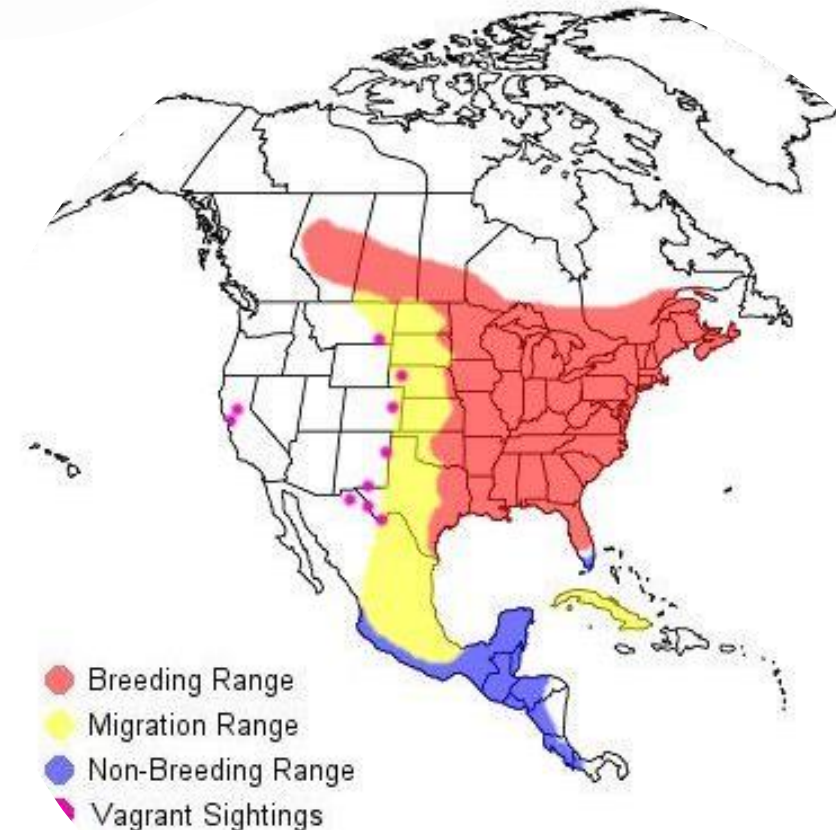
- All of these species have specific habitat needs that they seek out

Hummingbirds in Kentucky

- Ruby-throated hummingbird
 - Records include black-chinned, broad-tailed, green violet ear, rufous
- Nectar, insects, and sap on occasion



Ruby-throated Hummingbird
Archilochus colubri





Forest Types

- Many types of forests within Kentucky
- Oak-Hickory Dominated Forest
 - Old growth
 - Early successional
 - And everything in between

How Can You Help?

- Increase food
 - Plant natives
 - Use feeders when needed



So What Do Trees Provide Birds????

- Well that depends on the species
 - Food/Water
 - Insects
 - Mast



Trees and Shrubs

- Northern Catalpa
- Eastern Redbud
- Serviceberry
- Hawthorns
- Elderberry
- Holly
- Sumac
- Dogwood
- Oaks!!!!



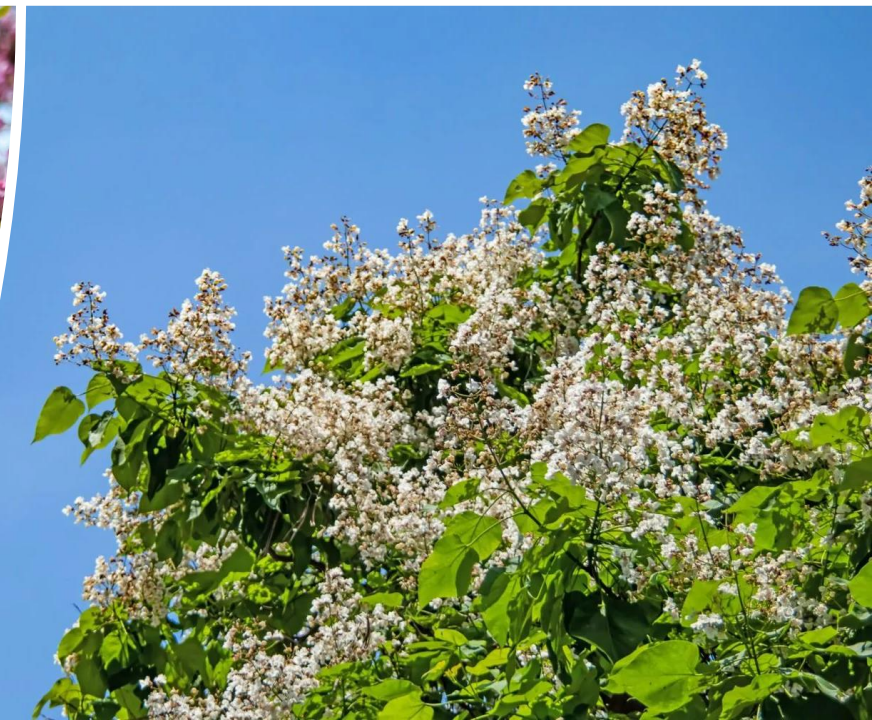


Native Plants

- Columbine
- Coral Honeysuckle
- Bee balm
- Cardinal flower

Native Plants

- Coneflowers (Echinacea spp.)
- Phlox (Phlox spp.)
- Sunflowers (Helianthus spp.)
- So many others....



So What Do Trees/Plants Provide Birds????

- If it provides one of these or more it is good for birds
 - Insects
 - Soft mast
 - Hard mast



Conifers

- Pines/Cedars
 - Berries/Seeds
 - Thermal cover



Tall Zone

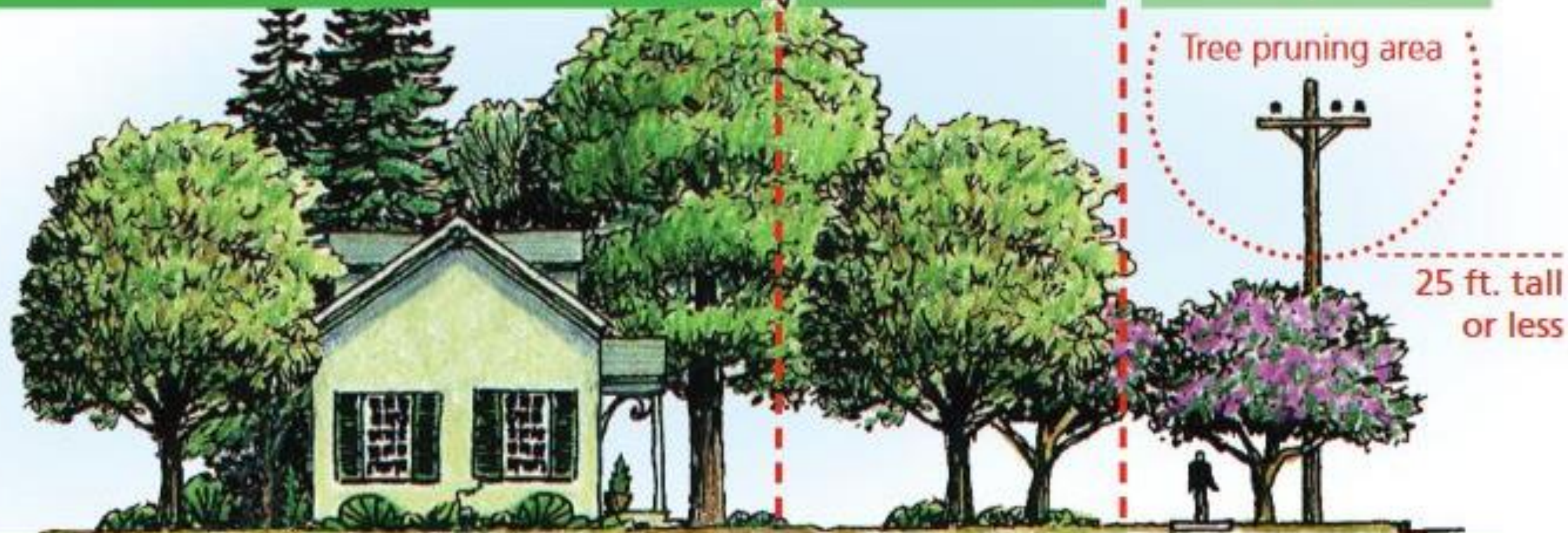
Tree heights taller
than 40 feet

Medium Zone

Tree heights less
than 40 feet

Small Zone

Tree heights
25 feet or less



Root
Damage
Zone

Feeders

- Place near shelter, in partial shade, where you can see them
- Avoid direct sunlight and immediately adjacent to windows



Backyard Birds

- Many different species use feeder
 - Certain species use certain types of feeders and also only will come to certain foods



Backyard Birds

- Black Oil Sunflower – the absolute best & no need to feed anything else – finches, ground birds like doves, etc. will eat it, woodpeckers and nuthatches will eat it, doesn't attract as many "pest birds"
- Safflower – cardinals, titmice (if pest birds are a problem)
- Suet – mix with chunky peanut butter and frozen mealworms - woodpeckers



How Can You Help?

- Increase food
 - Plant natives
 - Use feeders when needed
- Help monitor the migration and breeding areas
 - eBird
 - Merlin
 - iNaturalist





Cats and Birds, A mixture
that should never happen!!!



HUMMINGBIRDS

An Attractive Asset to Your Garden

Thomas G. Barnes, Ph.D., Associate Extension Professor
and Extension Wildlife Specialist, Department of Forestry

► Female on wire



▼ Copper iris



People have always liked the hummingbird, even esteemed it. The hummingbird's tiny size (male rubythroats weigh in at a whopping 3.03 grams—about the weight of 2½ paper clips!) is a big part of the fascination. But its brilliant color, dazzling aerobatics, swift flight, and personality also delight and entertain us throughout the summer.

This publication is about these fabulous “flying, flowered jewels” and how to bring them into your garden.

Hummingbirds in History

Perhaps the earliest written introduction of the hummingbird to our European ancestors occurred in 1526 when Gonzalo Fernández de Oviedo y Valdés wrote “...no bigger than the end of a man's thumb... and of such swiftness in flight you cannot see the movement of their wings...The colors shine like those of the little birds artists paint to illuminate the margins of holy books.” This description makes it understandable why hummingbirds have been called “flying jewels.”

In 1770, John Lawson wrote in his diary “The hummingbird is the miracle of all our winged animals. He is feathered as a bird, but gets his living as the bees.” In 1775, George Louis Leclerc wrote



◀ Male at feeder



◀ Female nectaring on Mexican sunflower

in *L'histoire naturelle* “...of all animated beings, this is the most elegant in form and brilliant in colour. The stones and metals polished by art are not comparable to this gem of nature.”

The ruby-throated hummingbird (*Archilochus colubris*) is one of 23 species of hummers that frequent North America and the only species that breeds in the eastern United States. This species is the second most widely distributed hummingbird in North America. When most people think of hummers, they think of those in the western United States. That is where 16 different species breed in this country, but do not forget the rubythroat. It is a remarkable little bird and its beauty rivals many of its western counterparts.

More Information....

- UK Extension publication FOR-97
- From the woods Today



From The Woods Today - Groundwater Awareness

In this episode of From the Woods Today, we celebrate Groundwater Awareness Week by sharing the importance of groundwater and protecting it from the impacts of various human land uses. We also have our monthly Wings of Kentucky segment.



From The Woods Today - Winter Tree Identification



From The Woods Today - Emerging Spring Bugs

In this episode of From the Woods Today, we have Dr. Larson on to discuss the biology of what happens to insects when they emerge in the springtime due to the warming weather.



From The Woods Today - Winter Insect Survival



From The Woods Today - World Wildlife D

In this episode of From the Woods Today, we celebrate World Wildlife Day by highlighting the wildlife diversity of Kentucky. We also have a segment about invasive plant awareness.



From The Woods Today - Attracting Birds