

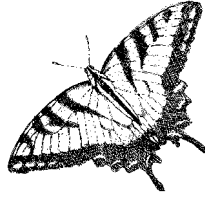


# ILLINOIS AUDUBON SOCIETY

*Helping to Preserve the Flora and Fauna of Illinois since 1897*

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## **BIRD AND BUTTERFLY SANCTUARY PROGRAM**

Your backyard can become a Certified Illinois Audubon Sanctuary for birds and butterflies. While maintaining your grounds to attract wildlife, you will be adding to the value of your property and the beauty of your neighborhood. Every participant whose yard or estate qualifies for the sanctuary designation will receive a certificate and a sign for posting the property.

### HOW TO QUALIFY FOR CERTIFICATION:

1. Your yard must have plantings especially suited to attracting birds and butterflies. This should include trees and shrubs to provide nesting cover for birds, berry-producing shrubs, and flowers for hummingbirds and butterflies. It may also include nest boxes if there is space, and should have a birdbath, small pond or other source of water.
2. You must agree to use a minimal amount (preferably no) chemicals in maintaining your sanctuary. Many herbicides and pesticides are detrimental to birds, bees and butterflies, and can also be harmful to people and pets.
3. You must use your yard or grounds to educate other people about the importance of bird and butterfly plantings. This can take many forms--simply telling neighbors and visitors about the Illinois Audubon Society Backyard Sanctuary Program and showing them the special plantings in your yard; giving a slide presentation to a group concerning the importance of backyard habitat, or inviting them to view your yard.
4. You will need to send us one or more photos of your yard, showing that it is "bird and butterfly friendly." The Society reserves the right to use photos for educational purposes.

Our purpose in this program is to *educate* everyone on the importance of maintaining an environmentally sound home habitat and to warn the public about the dangers of dependence on chemicals to control weeds and insects. We want you to spread the word that there are also safer alternatives available. If you agree with our philosophy, why not certify your backyard today?

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### APPLICATION FOR CERTIFIED BIRD AND BUTTERFLY SANCTUARY

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Where did you hear about this program? \_\_\_\_\_

Send this form and \$10 fee to:  
Illinois Audubon Society, PO Box 2547, Springfield, IL 62708

*The mission of the Illinois Audubon Society is to promote the perpetuation and appreciation of native plants and animals and the habitats that support them.*

# Attracting Hummingbirds to your Backyard

**Natural Food.** Hummingbirds are attracted to nectar-producing flowers; although red, orange or bright pink tend to attract them most frequently, they readily visit flowers of various colors. Some of the most popular garden flowers planted specifically to attract hummingbirds include salvias, hibiscus, penstemons, trumpet honeysuckles and fuchsias. In addition to feeding on nectar (which is little more than a solution of sugars in water), hummingbirds must eat large numbers of insects and other invertebrates to meet their protein, vitamin, mineral and other nutrient needs.

**Feeders.** The standard solution for hummingbird feeders is one cup of white “cane” sugar to four cups of boiling water. Cool and store in the refrigerator until needed. In the fall, as the season cools, the sugar to water ratio can gradually be increased as high as 1:1. Never use “beet” sugar, honey, red dye or artificial sweeteners – these may be harmful or fatal to the birds. During the hot summer months, left over sugar water in the feeders should be changed every two or three days. (Suggestion: fill feeders just full enough so changing won’t be necessary!)

- \* It is better to have two or three small feeders than one large one. Hummers are very territorial, and a single male will fight off even his own mate and young to have the feeder all to himself!
- \* Bee guards do not keep bees from the feeder; they give them a place to hang on. Bees are not usually a problem until late summer. Place a saucer of sugar water for them away from the hummingbird feeders. Do not coat the openings of your feeders--this can be dangerous for the hummers.

**Leaving Feeders Out.** In times past it was thought that hummingbird feeders should be “taken down” in September so that birds would not be lured into staying beyond normal departure dates. However, it has been learned that feeders are not responsible for delaying migration; therefore, people are encouraged to leave feeders out at least two weeks beyond the date the last hummingbird was seen or even until November or December. The presence of such feeders later in the season have attracted and assisted the survival of many strays including unexpected species from the west and southwest. **They will not stay indefinitely--the urge to migrate is very strong.**

*Remember: Do not use pesticides in your yard. Even a small amount of spray intended for roses or vegetables can contaminate the food supply for your hummingbirds.*

***Certify your yard as a Bird & Butterfly Sanctuary! Call IAS for an application.***

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Suggested plants for attracting hummingbirds to your yard.

4/06

Annuals & Perennials:		Trees:	Shrubs:	Vines:
Ajuga	Gladiolus	Flowering Crab	Azalea	Honeysuckle
BeeBalm (Monarda)	Hollyhock	Hawthorne	Beauty Bush	Morning Glory
Begonia	Impatiens	Horse Chestnut	Butterfly Bush	Scarlet Runner-bean
Blazing Star (Liatris)	Lantana	Locust	Currant	Trumpet Creeper
Bleeding Heart	Lily	Red Buckeye	Flowering Quince	Trumpet Honeysuckle
Butterfly-weed	Lupine	Tulip Poplar	Gooseberry	
Canna	Nasturtium		Fuchsia	
Cardinal Flower	Paintbrush		Hibiscus	
Columbine	Penstemon		Honeysuckle	
Coral Bells	Petunia		Weigela	
Dahlia	Phlox			
Delphinium	Red-Hot Poker			
Flowering Tobacco	Scarlet Sage			
Four-o-Clock	Spider Flower			
Foxglove	Sweet William			
Fuchsia	(Dianthus)			
Gilia	Verbena			
Geranium	Zinnia			

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