

CPD Nature Notes Aug 2010

Aug 2 Not all hummingbird bills are structurally the same. The diversity of bill forms is species specific and this assists in getting nectar from the species' flowers of choice.

Aug 9 Hummingbirds are unique to the Americas. Approximately 340 species exist and many of them live in the equatorial tropics. The oldest living Ruby-throated Hummingbird was 9 years, one month old!

Aug 16 The Ruby-throated hummingbirds is the only species that nests in Crawford County. Their nest is crafted from plant down, shingled with lichens and bound with cobwebs. The opening is about the size of a quarter.

Aug 23 Most ruby-throated hummingbirds winter in Central America. That requires a 500 mile flight across the Gulf of Mexico. Since their wings beat approximately 53 times a second, it is hard to imagine how they get that migration accomplished!

Aug 30 The Ruby-throated Hummingbird does not show a strong preference for any particular color of feeder. Instead, it prefers specific feeder locations.