

**Account:** South Carolina State Parks

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**South Carolina State Parks**

at 0:30:01 on 8/28/2013 UTC · 🌐

SEE AT A STATE PARK OR YOUR BACKYARD! The male ruby-throated hummingbird does indeed have a striking red throat, though the female of the species does not. You would have to look quickly to see either, however, as these speedy little birds can beat their wings 53 times a second and fly in an acrobatic style matched by few other birds. They hover often, and also fly upside down and backwards. These hummingbirds have extremely short legs, so they cannot walk or even hop with any efficiency.

Ruby-throated hummingbirds live in woodland areas, but also frequent gardens where flowering plants are plentiful. They hover to feed on flowers, nectar, and sap. During this floral feeding process, the birds pollinate many plants.

These tiny birds are omnivores, sometimes feeding on insects and spiders. An adult ruby-throated hummingbird may eat twice its body weight in food each day, which it burns up with the high metabolism necessary to sustain its rapid wing beat and energetic movements.



**Becky Abraham** You better look quick because they are starting their southern migration to Central America soon. Start watching again in late March for their arrival here for the spring/summer.

at 0:48:20 on 8/28/2013 UTC



**Paula Feldman** Here on the coast, we have some that stay year round!

at 0:51:36 on 8/28/2013 UTC



**Rob Lamb** They're in our yard!



at 1:14:22 on 8/28/2013 UTC



**Angelika Hofmann Graves** I love my hummers. There still very busy and feisty in Duncan, SC.

at 1:27:37 on 8/28/2013 UTC



**Sandi Twilley Lorch** So many this year!! Love them

at 1:53:49 on 8/28/2013 UTC



**Kristina Fallon** Had a pair in Lexington and now have a pair is west Columbia

at 1:54:11 on 8/28/2013 UTC



**Kristina Fallon** We had ours last year till almost Oct

at 1:54:47 on 8/28/2013 UTC



**Elaine Corbin Cassidy** I have them in my yard ,beautiful ,

at 2:07:05 on 8/28/2013 UTC



**Decima Logan Morrison** We enjoy them on the deck at our home in the upstate!

at 3:32:20 on 8/28/2013 UTC



**Marcia McLin** Mine are eating 10 lbs per week...



at 4:05:00 on 8/28/2013 UTC



**Lynda Christison** Wow! Great photo! Mine chase each other away from thr feeder.

at 10:34:06 on 8/28/2013 UTC



**Nanette Barton** I have a ruby throated who visits several times a day & then have 5-6 smaller black throated that fight over my feeder. I have some that never leave for warmer climates !

at 10:42:12 on 8/28/2013 UTC