

CONSERVATION CORNER

Hummingbird Fun Facts, Part 2

1. They are the only birds that can fly backwards, side-to-side and hover due to the structure of their wing joints allowing them to rotate 180 degrees.
2. Their wings move in a figure 8 pattern.
3. A hummingbird beats its wings on average 53 times a second, that's 3,180 beats per minute.
4. The average flight speed of a hummingbird is 30 mph but can reach up to 50 mph.
5. A hummingbird's heart will beat as fast as 1,260 times per minute when in full flight.
6. When at rest a hummingbird will enter 'torpor, it is a hibernation-like state that helps conserve energy, during torpor the heart rate drops around 50-250 beats per minute.
7. These birds visit 100s to 1,000s of flowers every day to keep up with their metabolism, also pollinating flowers in the process.
8. Hummingbirds need to eat every 10-15 minutes.
9. These birds are highly aggressive and territorial with food resources.
10. Hummingbird vision extends into the ultraviolet range, allowing them to easily pick out orange, yellow and red colors to find flowers easily.
11. Hummingbirds have amazing spatial memory, meaning they can remember locations of feeders and bloom peak of flowers and where the flowers are located for years.



Learn more:

<https://www.birdsandblooms.com/birding/attracting-hummingbirds/13-jaw-dropping-facts-about-hummingbirds/>

<https://www.kaytee.com/learn-care/wild-bird/hummingbird-facts>