

## Winter Support for Hummingbirds

Making sure nectar doesn't freeze:

- Buy a heated hummingbird feeder. There are many heated models online to choose from. You can also try your local bird or garden store.
- Buy a suction cup feeder for windows, the heat from inside warms them up and you get to look at them more closely.
- Rotate multiple feeders so that when one starts to freeze you can replace it. This allows warm flowing nectar to be available at all times.
- Insulate feeder with a sock or stocking. By placing the sock on the portion of the feeder that holds the nectar this can prevent freezing but you will not be able to see the nectar so make sure to check it to make sure it doesn't freeze.
- Wrap incandescent Christmas lights around the feeder to warm up the nectar. This will also provide heat for the hummingbirds themselves.



Making the feeder more comfortable:

- Hang an incandescent light near the feeder to provide warmth.
- Hang a heat lamp near the feeder. It should make the feeder warm to the touch but not hot. Make sure the heat lamp isn't close enough to heat up any metal too much or melt the plastic.
- Make sure the feeder is out of direct wind, rain, and snow.



Shelter:

- Make a shelter out of a larger tupperware by cutting off one side (the one that is away from the wind towards your house) and cutting a whole in the top to pull the string through. It should be able to rest on the top of the feeder. Make sure the material is clear so they can still see the familiar color of your feeder.

Note: Winter blooming shrubs are a good way to keep a consistent food source for them and can attract types of insects that the hummingbirds feed on.