



## Wild Bird Center of Boulder

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# Wild Bird Center of Boulder

Your Backyard Bird Feeding  
and Bird Watching Experts

August 2007

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### Wild Bird Center Saturday Walks:

From 7:30 am (promptly) to  
9:45 am (approximately)

Every Saturday year-round.

Every last Saturday of the month we  
travel further afield than normal and  
return a little later.



### Welcome to Wild Bird Center's New eNewsletter

We are sending you our first eNewsletter because you are a valued customer and have shown interest in Wild Bird Center of Boulder - your backyard bird feeding and bird watching specialist. We value your relationship. Wild Bird Center of Boulder adheres to a strict privacy policy that means your information will not be shared, sold, or otherwise distributed. Also, we will only send infrequently. If you do not wish to receive any further eNewsletters, click the "SafeUnsubscribe" link at the bottom of this page.

Look below for a special offer and valuable resource information. We hope you enjoy our eNewsletter and invite your comments.

### West Nile Virus Returns to Boulder Co.

West Nile Virus will be part of the Boulder County landscape for years to come. The general trend for the virus should be that it will weaken and become less of a threat to humans and birds as time passes. Unfortunately, this year the virus level seems to be paralleling 2003, the first year we had the virus and the most severe year. West Nile Virus, in humans, does not usually have any effect. But for some, especially those over 50 years old, the virus can induce long term and severe health problems. The birds also get West Nile, sometimes with deadly consequences. Birds most susceptible to the virus are members of the crow family like magpies and jays, and chickadees. For more information, visit the Greenwood Wildlife Rehabilitation Sanctuary website.

West Nile is transmitted to birds and humans by only certain mosquito species. Prevention for yourself and your birds starts with eliminating mosquito breeding grounds around your home. One key breeding ground is house gutters. Make sure your gutters are clear of debris that trap water and allow mosquitoes to breed. Feeding and attracting birds to your property will not increase your risk of contracting West Nile. Make sure to reduce your risk of encountering mosquitoes by using repellants, wearing long clothing, and avoid being outside at dawn and dusk near wetland areas.

### Hummingbird Migration in Colorado

Right now we have peak numbers of hummingbirds at feeders. One reason for the high numbers is all the young of the year have fledged and are now hungry "teenagers". The other reason has to do with migration. Many of the hummingbirds in our region now have come from the northern Rockies and even as far away as southern Alaska. Actually, southward hummingbird migration started back in June, with our first southbound birds showing up around the 4th of July. Males migrate through first, then females, and finally the young of the year. Migrants and locals will also disperse from their nesting mountain habitat at this time of year and visit the plains. Interestingly, our rarest hummingbird visitor, the calliope hummingbird, is the most common plains visitor.

Enjoy these beautiful marvels of nature now because they won't be with us for too long. By the end of August most of our hummingbirds have left for warmer climes. However, some humminbirds may be with us even in early October. Contrary to some common "knowledge", feeding humminbirds not keep them from migrating. Your feeding the hummingbirds will actually help them leave. We suggest you leave your feeder out until no more birds are visiting, then take it down for the winter.

### Upcoming Events

#### Annual Fall Sale

October 23-28

1641 - 28th Street

Boulder, Colorado 80301

Mark your calendars for our annual Fall Sale. This year we will have a variety of things on sale, not just seeds. More information as we get closer to the sale.



### Our eNewsletter Special Offer: 15% Off Wild Bird Center Hummer Nectar

This milled sugar based formula is perfect for hummingbirds. It dissolves easily in cold water and will make 4.5 quarts of nectar. This nectar does not include preservatives or dyes which have been shown to be unattractive to hummingbirds.

Mention **PROMO CODE WB0815**.  
Call or bring in Code to redeem.

### Thank you from the staff at Wild Bird Center of Boulder!

We sincerely appreciate your patronage. Happy Birding!

-- Steve, Marlene, Scott & Bill