



# J & K Llamas

Landscape, Nursery & Decorative Rock

3981 Reno Hwy, Fallon, NV 89406 | Phone (775) 423-8699

## How to Attract Butterflies and Hummingbirds to Your Garden

There is nothing nicer than looking out a window or sitting on a porch and seeing butterflies and hummingbirds darting around your garden going from one plant to the next. Hummingbirds and butterflies provide humor and beauty to our yards and lives! They have basic needs like other creatures - food, water and shelter. As gardeners we can plant a garden that invites hummingbirds and butterflies in for many years!

### Hummingbirds

Hummingbirds are drawn to bright, vibrant colors - have you ever been buzzed by one when wearing a red or orange shirt? There is no need to fear that your garden must be red and orange - once a hummingbird comes into your garden, it will flit around to other flowers to gather their sweet nectar.

While hummingbirds will visit many types of flowers it's important to remember that their beaks are long and slender and tubular, trumpet-shaped flowers are a good fit. Often times these tubular shaped flowers come in clusters which means you enjoy a big visual impact in your yard and the hummingbirds can stay in an area for a while (thus letting you watch them more easily.)

They say variety is the spice of life and just as you would never want to eat the same thing every day - hummingbirds enjoy variety as well.

The more variety of plants you provide for the hummingbirds the more likely they are to keep coming back to your yard. Don't be shy; try succulents, annuals, perennials, shrubs, vines, trees and desert natives. (Desert natives attract migrating birds who may want something they are familiar with.) It's also a good idea to vary the size of the plants! By adding larger specimens into your yard, you get shade and a wind break, the hummingbirds (other species of birds too) get places to perch - so as to protect their territory and they also have a place to nest.

Don't worry about having a small yard! There are many plants with vibrant blooms that thrive in pots and hanging baskets - a hummingbird is not shy about going after a good meal!

### Butterflies

Butterflies will enjoy the flower selection of plants you have set out for the hummingbirds but they also enjoy several other types of plants! They love fragrant flowers in any hue (white, pink and yellow) but seem particularly interested in the lavender to purple family of flowers.

An interesting point of butterflies is that they have several different stages to their lives and need different food depending on what life cycle they are in. Here are some additional flowers butterflies will enjoy.

While these lists are in no way complete, they are a good starting point. Take notes of what really works and if you see hummingbirds and butterflies in your neighbor's yard, don't hesitate to ask! Most gardeners love to brag about their successes and warn others of pitfalls.

## Plants for Hummingbirds

Agastache - Anise Hyssop	Gladiolus--Gladiola
Ajuga - Carpet Bugle	Hesperaloe - Red Yucca
Albizia - Mimosa or Silk Tree	Heuchera - Coral Bells
Alcea - Hollyhock (L)	Hummingbird Mint
Althea - Rose of Sharon	Kniphofia - Red Hot Poker
Aquilegia - Columbine (A)	Lavandula - Lavender (A)
Armeria - Sea Thrift (A)	Lobelia - Cardinal Flower (A)
Asclepias - Butterfly Weed (L)	Lonicera - Honeysuckle (A)
Astilbe (A)	Lupinus - Lupine (L)
Autumn Sage (Salvia gregii - is generally an annual but worth the investment - may winter over)	Malus - Flowering Crabapple (L)
Buddleia - Butterfly Bush (A)	Malva - Mallow (L)
Canna	Mimulus - Monkey Flower (L)
Campsis - Trumpet Vine	Monarda - Bee Balm (A)
Catalpa	Penstemon - many varieties and colors - the Firecracker is a stunner (L,A)
Chaenomeles - Flowering Quince	Rosea-Roses (L)
Chilopsis - Desert Willow (this can be pruned into a rough tree form or left a bush)	Salvia - Garden Sage (A)
Delphinium	Sambucus - Elderberry (A)
Dicentra - Bleeding Heart (L)	Spiraea (L)
Digitalis - Foxglove	Syringa - Lilac
Eleagnus - Russian Olive	Weigelia
Fuchsia	Yucca

## Plants for Butterflies

Achillea - Yarrow (L,A)	Mahonia - Oregon Grape (A)
Aster (L,A)	Perovskia - Russian Sage (A)
Betula - Birch (L)	Philadelphus - Mock Orange (A)
Caryopteris (A)	Pinus - Pine (L)
Centranthus - Jupiter's Beard (A)	Prunus - Flowering Plum, Cherry, and Chokecherry family (L)
Chrysanthemum - Carnations and Mums (A)	Ribes - Currant, Gooseberry (L,A)
Cinquefoil - Potentilla (A)	Salix - Willow (L)
Coreopsis (A)	Scabiosa - Pincushion Flower (A)
Cornus - Dogwood (L)	Sedum - Stonecrop (A)
Crataegus - Hawthorn (L)	Solidago - Goldenrod (A)
Eriogonum - Wild Buckwheat (L)	Stawberry (L)
Gallardia - Blanket Flower (A)	Verbena (L,A)
Helianthus - Sunflowers	Veronica - Speedwell (L)
Iberis - Candytuft (A)	Viburnum (L)
Lantana (L)	Wisteria (L)
Liatris - Gayfeather (A)	

(An A (adult) or L (larvae) appearing next to a plant denotes that the plant is appropriate for butterflies during that part of their life cycle.)