



NEWS RELEASE

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State Ornithologist presents Hummingbirds 101

THE WOODLANDS, TEXAS (March 5, 2015) – *Hummingbirds 101: Everything that you wanted to know about hummingbirds and more*, features Cliff Shackelford—author, radio personality and state ornithologist with Texas Parks & Wildlife Department—on Thursday, March 12, 2015, at 7:30 p.m. in the L.G.I. Lecture Hall at McCullough Junior High School, 3800 S. Panther Creek Drive.

Mr. Cliff Shackelford’s radio show, *Bird Calls*, airs on National Public Radio’s (NPR) Red River Radio (RRR) station, which has the second largest coverage area of any NPR station in the country.

Sharing his passion for hummingbirds, Mr. Shackelford will reveal a close-up view of the captivating bird. Luring hummingbirds to the home landscape is not difficult. He recommends filling feeders with a simple homemade mixture of four parts water to one part table sugar; no other type of sweetener should be used. “Red dye is totally unnecessary and frowned upon,” he says. The red parts of the feeder capture attention, or try hanging red yarn, ribbon or a bandana nearby, he suggests.

Plants offer the greatest appeal, Mr. Shackelford says. “If you want to attract hummingbirds, better than providing a feeder is providing a *wildscape* complete with native nectar-giving plants. Simply put, a *wildscape* is backyard landscaping for wildlife.” Even apartment balconies and patios can be effectively landscaped with potted plants to provide habitat for hummingbirds.

A *Walk in the Woods* Nature Lecture, *Hummingbirds 101* is a free program presented by The Woodlands Township with sponsorship by The Woodlands G.R.E.E.N., Waste Management and Nature’s Way Resources. Copies of *Hummingbirds of Texas* will be available for purchase at the event.

For more information, please visit www.thewoodlandstowship-tx.gov/wildlife or call The Woodlands Township Environmental Services office at 281-210-3800.



Hummingbird photo by Anita Wren:

Bejeweled, territorial, captivating, hummingbirds always entertain! Discover more about the hummingbirds that visit our area and the habitat that brings them here on Thursday, March 12, at 7:30 p.m. at McCullough Junior High School.