



Hello, Broomfield Bird Club members!

July can be a quiet month for wild birds. Many species have finished nesting and sent new fledglings into the world. The “dawn chorus” is quieter now that birds are no longer calling to mates and competing for territory.

Look closely, and you’ll notice that many birds have lost their bright breeding colors. Some may look downright scruffy. Mid- to late summer is molting season, when many bird species systematically replace their feathers. Yes, feathers wear out – and [many wild birds lie low](#) to avoid attracting predators while their new plumage fills in.

On the other hand, hummingbirds may appear more often in our backyards during molting season. Replacing feathers takes lots of energy, and a nectar feeder can be a reliable source of calories. Their new feathers come in a few at a time, and hummingbirds enjoy bathing or flying through a lawn sprinkler’s mist as those itchy pin feathers emerge.

So fill your hummingbird feeder, top off the bird bath, and keep an eye out for the tiny birds that add a touch of color to the quiet days of summer!

(Also, did you know that hummingbird banding and research is ongoing in and around Rocky Mountain National Park? Here are some amazing photos and research-based info from CARRI, the Colorado Avian Research and Rehabilitation Institute) at <https://www.carriep.org/hummingbird-research>.

## **JULY BIRD WALK**

We’re taking it easy too, this month, with just one walk scheduled. A few slots remain for this outing, which involves minimal walking. If all slots are filled, please add your name to the waitlist; you’ll be contacted if a cancellation occurs.

### **8 a.m. Wednesday, July 22: Summer Hummingbirds in Lyons**

With birding expert Pete Ruprecht, we’ll visit a private home in Lyons where our host has feeders that attract hummingbirds and other birds. If we’re lucky, we’ll see all four species of Colorado hummingbirds: Broad-tailed, Black-chinned, Rufous, and Calliope.

**Registration is required** for all field trips. We limit the number of attendees to provide a quality experience for everyone; members are given preference. [See bird walk details and sign up here.](#)

## **COMMUNITY EVENTS**

We loved meeting new birders last month at the Broomfield Trail Adventure, and visiting with members and their families at our annual picnic and the Metzger Farm Open House.

Next month, look for the club's bright blue tent at **Naturefest, from 9 a.m. to noon Saturday, August 15**, at Metzger Farm, near the intersection of 120<sup>th</sup> and Lowell Avenues. This free, family-focused event brings dozens of nature-focused organizations together for a morning of hands-on learning and outdoor fun. [See all our events here](#).

Looking ahead, we'll be needing volunteers to lend a hand at **Broomfield Days** on Saturday, Sept. 19. If you have questions, or can commit to a two-hour shift at our booth, please email Christine at [ckindl@gmail.com](mailto:ckindl@gmail.com) using the subject line "BBC volunteer."

Keep cool, and happy birding!

Christine Kindl  
President, Broomfield Bird Club