



# Santa Lucia Conservancy ~ *Keeping it Wild*

The National Audubon Society's CEO, David Yarnold, paid The Preserve a visit in October to share some sobering news:

**Today's children may lose half of America's birds –over 300 species– in their lifetimes.**

We can make a difference. The Preserve is big, ecologically diverse, and right smack in the middle of the Pacific Flyway.

## Five meaningful ways to help:

### 1. Avoid pesticides

Birds as diverse as tiny wrens to golden eagles can die from poisons intended for insects or rodents. The Conservancy can help with toxic-free alternatives.

### 2. Landscape with natives

Planting native forbs and shrubs in your garden with flowers and berries provides natural bird feeders and will also support imperiled pollinators like native bees.

### 3. Turn the lights down

Many birds migrate at night, using the stars to navigate. Others rely on insects that require nocturnal habitat. Turn down or cutback on outdoor lighting to protect the night sky!

### 4. Keep kitty indoors

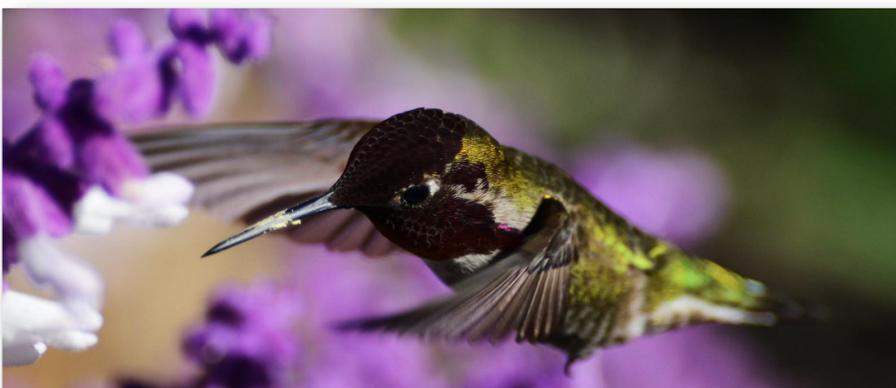
Well-fed domestic cats are amazing recreational hunters: in 'kitty cam' studies, pet cats killed wildlife an average of twice a week.

### 5. Clean feeders often

Rinse hummingbird and seed feeders with a diluted bleach solution to prevent the spread of disease. Place feeders out of reach of cats and rats, and place close to the house to prevent window strikes.



Yellow warbler – Shutterstock



Ann's Hummingbird - Alex de la Tour



Window strike, Pine Siskin – Dr. Christy