



# Wild Bird Trading Co.

Your backyard feeding specialist.

## Why Hummingbird Feeders Leak

Below is a list of why hummingbird feeders drip. Most of these problems address leaking in gravity fed feeders where the bottle is above the feeding port. Most leaking problems do not occur in saucer style hummingbird feeders.



*Saucer style*

- ✔ Too much sun...when the space above the nectar heats from the sun the air expands and pushes the nectar out of the ports. Solution- move the feeder to shade.
- ✔ Barometric changes in weather. this can change the relative difference in the air pressure inside the nectar bottle causing the pump action described above. Solution- wait for the pressure to stabilize.
- ✔ Large birds. Solution-remove perches.
- ✔ Animals (i.e.) Squirrels, raccoons or bears trying to drink the nectar. Solution- move feeder out of reach.
- ✔ Wind can cause the feeder to swing and leak. Solution- Shelter the feeder from wind.
- ✔ Improper cleaning. Sugar around seams and seals will create openings allowing air in and the vacuum will be broken
- ✔ Bottle not fully screwed into base. Solution- check for dirty treads, clean and screw bottle back to feeder.
- ✔ Crack in base. Solution- replace part or all of feeder.
- ✔ Bouncing of feeder. If a feeder is mounted on a deck it may bounce when someone is walking on the deck. Solution-hang feeder on stable hanger.
- ✔ Hole in Bottle. this will cause a loss of vacuum. Solution- replace bottle.
- ✔ Old Feeder. Parts change in size and shape with age and plastic will deteriorate with age. Solution-replace feeder or worn parts
- ✔ Feeder hung incorrectly. Solution- hang the feeder straight.



*Top reservoir style*