Buried "Loggery"

Dead and decaying wood is an important wildlife habitat, used by many species of beetle and other invertebrates

Image taken from the London Wildlife Trust publication: Stag Beetle: an advice note for its conservation in London, 2000.

Create a "loggery", by simply partially burying hardwood logs (with bark still attached) c.60cm into the ground, packing logs as closely together as possible. Position in partially shaded areas to prevent dessication. Avoid making log piles too high, or the timber will dry out. The logs should be at least the thickness of an adult's arm (10-50cm diameter).

Wood from any broadleaved tree can be used, but oak, beech or fruit trees (such as apple/pear) are best, as these support the richest insect communities.

A buffer zone should be created around the logs so that the soils and vegetation are protected as much as possible from disturbance, and ideally the surrounding vegetation should not be cut between May-September. Allowing plants to grow over the log pyramid both retains moisture and provides shade for invertebrate species.

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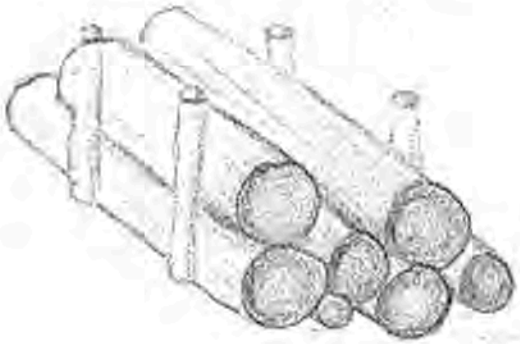
Wood Piles for invertebrates

Dead and decaying wood is an important wildlife habitat, used by many species of beetle and other invertebrate.



These creatures then become a foraging resource for species higher up the food chain, including birds, bats and terrestrial mammals.

Create a wood pile by sinking 4 posts approximately 8-10cm in diameter, at least 20cm into the ground as shown above.

Logs with bark, of any diameter should be cut into consistent lengths of 1.5 - 2m, and then tightly and neatly stacked into the space between the uprights.

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