



# GARDENING FOR BEETLES



Log piles provide a great place for beetles to shelter. Some beetles feed directly on dead wood and others might prey upon other invertebrates that live there. Building a few different log piles in different places (shade vs sunlight, damp vs dry) creates different conditions to attract a variety of species

Leaf litter is brilliant beetle habitat. Some types might lay their eggs in here and the larvae will hatch out and grow up amongst the dead leaves. Leave the leaves where they fall in Autumn or rake into a pile and leave to rot.



Stone piles provide cool, dark habitats for many invertebrates including beetles. Dig a shallow dip and fill it with stones then pile up as big as you want..

The UK is home to many species of water beetle which spend their lives in ponds. Top tips for wildlife ponds are gently sloping sides; depth of around 30-40cm; native pond plants and fill with rainwater.



Compost heaps are brilliant for all sorts of wildlife. Many beetles feed on decaying matter as larvae and it provides a sheltered spot for them to live too. Open compost heaps are better if possible to make it easier for beetles to get in

Some species of beetle feed on pollen and nectar, so flowers where this is abundant are important. Some good ones include ox-eye daisy, buttercup and sweet peas.



More info here: <https://www.gardenersworld.com/plants/five-habitats-to-make-for-beetles/>

