

Make a mulch pile in your garden

people's
trust for
endangered
species

Having mulch in your garden really helps wildlife; it provides cover for small animals and is a handy, ready-made breeding site for stag beetles and other insects. As the materials gradually break down and decay, they enrich the soil and nourish your plants at the same time.

You can either buy mulch from your local garden centre or make



Mulch is an ideal habitat for female stag beetles to lay their eggs

it yourself using a mixture of organic residues such as wood chippings, shredded bark, grass clippings, sawdust and hay.

How to create mulch:

1. Start by choosing a good spot. Around some trees and / or plants is best. Avoid adding mulch on top of new growth.
2. Rake the ground beforehand to encourage existing organic materials to break down into the soil.
3. Use a watering can to water the ground, making it nice and moist.
4. Spread your organic materials in

Snails eat dead organic matter as well as living vegetation. As decomposers, they break down organic matter, which releases nutrients to enrich the soil



a 5-10cm thick layer, leaving a 5cm mulch-free area about any trees or plants.

5. Feel happy that you've just created a new habitat for wildlife in your garden.

