

# DEADWOOD

## A paradise for some



musk beetle  
*Aromia moschata*  
ground elder  
*Aegopodium podagraria*

Dead wood is an important food source for many insects. In Central Europe, over 1700 species of beetle live in some form of dead wood. Fungi also feed on wood and help to decompose it.

It's also a nursery for many insects like the Common Viper's Bugloss Mason Bee, which lays its eggs in dead wood branches and dead plant stems. Please don't always tidy up your garden perfectly – the more dead wood, the better!

Hopefully a few branches will fall from our willow trees because these would provide a perfect food source for the larvae of the musk beetle. The musk beetle is known for secreting a substance that was once used to perfume tobacco.

drawing: Sonja Fierz