



## Leaving a Wild Area

### Why are they needed?

Wild areas in a garden provide 2 main things for hedgehogs: a natural food source, and potential nest sites. If you keep your garden diverse with plenty of wild corners, hedges and plants; then you are attracting the natural food source of the hedgehog. Hedgehogs eat a variety of insects, molluscs and other invertebrates such as earthworms, caterpillars, earwigs, beetles and larvae to name a few.

These wild areas also provide the perfect shelter for hedgehogs needing a quick nest, or the perfect material such as grasses, leaves, plant cover, shrub cover and so on to make the perfect Winter hibernation nest or Summer nest for hoglets!



### Some Examples:

- Hedges/Hedgerows
- Wildflower patches
- General overgrown bramble patches or nettle patches
- Bordering flowerbeds or shrubs
- Small patches of woodland/tree coverage
- Patches of longer grasses that aren't mowed
- Natural leaf litter
- Low-growing shrub patches
- Diverse mixes of grass, clover, nettle

