

The small brush pile you are looking at provides shelter for birds, small mammals and amphibians. The larger brush on the far side of the bridge is designed for larger mammals like snowshoe hares and mink so that they can find avenues for escape and spaces for hiding or denning. It is built with an irregular base of logs 6 - 10 inches in diameter. The logs are arranged to create openings with complex dead ends (see illustration). The bottom logs have been covered with successive layers of lighter material until the pile reached a height of 4-5 feet. If you have woody debris at home, use it to make your own brush pile.

<https://portal.ct.gov/DEEP/Wildlife/Fact-Sheets/Brush-Piles-for-Wildlife>

