

Wiltshire Fishery Association Weed Cutting Dates 2020 - FINAL

<u>River Wylve - Bathampton to Chilhampton</u>		No
<u>CUTTING</u>	<u>CLEARING DOWN</u>	Days
<i>*Free weed cutting period - Wed 15th & Tues 28th April</i>		3
Thurs 14th - Sun 24th May	Mon 25th & Tues 26th May	13
Mon 29th June - Tues 14th July	Wed 15th & Thurs 16th July	18
Mon 17th - Mon 24th Aug	Tues 25th & Wed 26th Aug	10
		44
		44
<u>River Wylve - Below Chilhampton</u>		
<u>CUTTING</u>	<u>CLEARING DOWN</u>	
<i>*Free weed cutting period - Wed 15th & Tues 28th April</i>		3
Sun 17th - Wed 27th May	Thurs 28th & Fri 29th May	13
Wed 1st - Thurs 16th July	Fri 17th & Sat 18th July	18
Wed 19th - Wed 26th Aug	Thurs 27th & Fri 28th Aug	10
		44
		44
<u>River Nadder</u>		
<u>CUTTING</u>	<u>CLEARING DOWN</u>	
<i>*Free weed cutting period - Wed 15th & Tues 28th April</i>		3
Thurs 14th - Sun 24th May	Mon 25th & Tues 26th May	13
Mon 29th June - Tues 14th July	Wed 15th & Thurs 16th July	18
Mon 17th - Mon 24th Aug	Tues 25th & Wed 26th Aug	10
		44
		44
<u>River Avon - Above Crossing 'C'</u>		
<u>CUTTING</u>	<u>CLEARING DOWN</u>	
Fri 24th April to Fri 8th May	Sat 9th & Sun 10th May	17
Sat 13th to Thurs 25th June	Fri 26th & Sat 27th June	15
Sat 25th July to Mon 3rd Aug	Tues 4th & Wed 5th August	12
		44
		44
<u>River Avon - Below Crossing 'C'</u>		
<u>CUTTING</u>	<u>CLEARING DOWN</u>	
Tues 28th Apr to Tues 12th May	Wed 13th & Thurs 14th May	17
Wed 17th to Mon 29th June	Tues 30th June & Wed 1st July	15
Mon 27th July to Sun 5th August	Mon 6th & Tues 7th August	12
		44
		44

***Free Weed Cut - River Wylve & Nadder**

Allows for a Maximum 3-days light cutting (by hand only) from 15th to 28th April, which includes clearing down. You **MUST** inform your downstream neighbour before cutting and when you have finished clearing down. Representatives from EA, NE & WFA will continue to monitor weed cutting.

***EA weed booms will not be deployed.**

*Areas where there are salmon and trout redds and a potential for juvenile fry emergence, especially after a cold winter/early spring, should be left uncut.

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IMPORTANT NOTES

Under the Environmental Permitting (England and Wales) Regulations 2010 - 'Exempt Water Discharge Activity' – The Environment Agency allows members of the Wiltshire Fishery Association to cut weed on the agreed dates and in accordance with the conditions of the exemption. This programme of dates is now agreed for 2020 and there is no intention to amend it, unless circumstances arise when this is necessary. In that event, the changes will be posted on the WFA website <http://wiltshirefisheryassociation.org> under "NEWS" and circulated to River Email Groups. Before you cut weed, it is your responsibility to check both the website and your email group.

1. With the exception of the **Free Weed Cut* in April on the Wylve and Nadder (see separate notes above), cutting **MUST** start at the beginning of the dates allowed.
2. You **MUST** inform your downstream neighbour before cutting and when you have finished clearing down and of any subsequent problems.
3. Regular communication with your upstream and downstream neighbours is essential to ensure trouble-free weed cutting and clearing down.
4. Cutting of weed outside of the authorised dates, without the Agency's consent, constitutes an offence under Section 90 of the Water Resources Act 1991.
5. Unauthorised cutting should be reported immediately to the Environment Agency using their Pollution Hotline Tel: 0800 80 70 60 – Note the exact location (grid reference), date & time & take photographs. Do not enter neighbouring property unless you have permission to do so.
6. Weed cutting should be undertaken in a manner that is sensitive to the needs of the river habitat. Overzealous cutting of in-river weed or marginal vegetation can significantly reduce water levels, which can have a negative impact on invertebrates, fish and other wildlife.
7. In all cases the final two days, as shown separately in the table above, **MUST** be regarded as 'clearing down' days and any weed not cut before these days, left uncut. In some circumstances, especially in low water periods, you may need to extend the period of clearing down beyond two days, to ensure there's plenty of time for cut weed to move through the system.
8. Report all blockages and any other weed related issues immediately to the WFA Hon Sec:

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