

## Wiltshire Fishery Association Weed Cutting Dates 2022

<b><u>River Wylve - Bathampton to Chilhampton</u></b>		<b>No</b>
<b><u>CUTTING</u></b>	<b><u>CLEARING DOWN</u></b>	<b>Days</b>
<i>Free weed cutting period - Thurs 14th to Wed 27th April</i>		3
Fri 13th - Mon 23rd May	Tues 24th & Wed 25th May	13
Tues 28th June - Wed 13th July	Thurs 14th & Fri 15th July	18
Tues 16th - Tues 23rd Aug	Wed 24th & Thurs 25th Aug	10
		44
<b><u>River Wylve - Below Chilhampton</u></b>		
<b><u>CUTTING</u></b>	<b><u>CLEARING DOWN</u></b>	
<i>Free weed cutting period - Thurs 14th to Wed 27th April</i>		3
Mon 16th - Thurs 26th May	Fri 27th & Sat 28th May	13
Thurs 30 Jun - Fri 15th July	Sat 16th & Sun 17th July	18
Thurs 18th - Thurs 25th Aug	Fri 26th & Sat 27th Aug	10
		44
<b><u>River Nadder</u></b>		
<b><u>CUTTING</u></b>	<b><u>CLEARING DOWN</u></b>	
<i>Free weed cutting period - Thurs 14th to Wed 27th April</i>		3
Fri 13th - Mon 23rd May	Tues 24th & Wed 25th May	13
Tues 28th June - Wed 13th July	Thurs 14th & Fri 15th July	18
Tues 16th - Tues 23rd Aug	Wed 24th & Thurs 25th Aug	10
		44
<b><u>River Avon - Above Crossing 'C'</u></b>		
<b><u>CUTTING</u></b>	<b><u>CLEARING DOWN</u></b>	
Sat 23rd April to Sat 7th May	Sun 8th & Mon 9th May	17
Sun 12th to Fri 24th June	Sat 25th & Sun 26th June	15
Sun 24th July to Tues 2nd Aug	Wed 3rd & Thurs 4th August	12
		44
<b><u>River Avon - Below Crossing 'C'</u></b>		
<b><u>CUTTING</u></b>	<b><u>CLEARING DOWN</u></b>	
Wed 27th Apr to Wed 11th May	Thurs 12th & Fri 13th May	17
Thurs 16th to Tues 28th June	Wed 29th & Thurs 30th Jun	15
Tues 26th July to Thurs 4th August	Fri 5th & Sat 6th August	12
		44

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

**Allows for a Maximum 3-days light cutting (by hand only) from 14th to 27th April, which includes clearing down.** You **MUST** inform your downstream neighbour before cutting and when you have finished clearing down. Clubs should try to remove cut weed where possible only allowing the minimum amount to travel downstream. Representatives from EA, NE & WFA will continue to monitor weed cutting.

**\*EA weed booms will not be deployed during the period of the Free weed cut.**

\*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.

### 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 2022 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

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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:

For WFA membership and other enquires contact: **Martin Browne** - Honorary Secretary

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Website: <http://wiltshirefisheryassociation.org>