



RIVER ITCHEN **WEED CUTTING DATES 2023**

SECTOR A: ABOVE DURNGATE SLUICE (WINCHESTER)

<i>Sector A Cutting Dates</i>	<i>Sector A Clearing Off Dates</i>
Tue 2 nd May – Sat 6 th May	Sun 7 th May
Mon 5 th June – Mon 12 th June	Tue 13 th June – Wed 14 th June
Mon 3 rd July – Sun 9 th July	Mon 10 th July – Tue 11 th July
Mon 13 th August – Sun 20 th August	Mon 21 st August – Tue 22 nd August

SECTOR B: BELOW DURNGATE SLUICE (WINCHESTER)

<i>Sector B Cutting Dates</i>	<i>Sector B Clearing Off Dates</i>
Wed 3 rd May – Sun 7 th May	Mon 8 th May
Tue 6 th June - Tue 13 th June	Wed 14 th June – Tue 15 th June
Wed 5 th July – Tue 11 th July	Wed 12 th July – Thu 13 th July
Mon 14 th August – Mon 21 st August	Tue 22 nd August – Wed 23 rd Aug

WINTER OPEN PERIOD

Weed may be cut any time after 2nd October 2022 until 15th April 2023. Owners are asked to ensure that cutting is completed before trout spawning begins and that cut bank side vegetation is not allowed to fall in the river.

Please read the important notes overleaf

IMPORTANT NOTES

1. Cutting should start at the beginning of the dates allowed. You must inform your downstream neighbour when you have finished clearing off and of any subsequent problems. Regular communication with your neighbours upstream and downstream is essential to ensure trouble-free weed cutting and clearing down. Weed cutting boats should finish one day before the end of each cutting period
2. The Environment Agency has granted consent for the general cutting of weed on the River Itchen. In the event of low river flows (and high water temperatures) the Environment Agency may request that weed cuts are postponed or reduced in extent in order to maintain water levels and quality. 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
3. Grass cuttings and bank trimmings must **NEVER** be put into the river. Depositing any form of solid waste in the river, including bankside vegetation, is strictly prohibited under Sections 85 and 90 of the Water Resources Act 1991
4. Riparian owners are asked to carry out bank maintenance and other works likely to cause displacement of silt before Christmas, to avoid damage to spawning. The advice of the Agency should be sought before the commencement of any work and the necessary land drainage consents obtained.
5. Weed cutting should be undertaken in a manner which is sensitive to the needs of the river habitat. Overzealous or indiscriminate cutting of river weed or marginal vegetation can negatively impact habitat for healthy fly life, fish and other wildlife.
6. Above all else, be considerate and use your common sense. Do not send downstream what you would not want to receive from upstream.

Jonny Rees-Davies
Executive Director

CONTACT POINTS IN CASE OF DIFFICULTIES

Please report any weed cut problems in the first instance to the Test & Itchen Association office on 01794 341874 or by email to: administrator@testanditchen.co.uk. Anything you can do to investigate the cause of the problem will help the Association respond effectively.

Test & Itchen Association
Kimbridge Lane
Kimbridge
Romsey
Hampshire SO51 0LE
Jeremy: 07714245507

Environment Manager Solent
Environment Agency Romsey Depot
Canal Walk
Romsey
Hampshire SO51 7LP
Tel. 03708 506506

**Environment Agency
Emergency Hot Line
0800 80 70 60 (24hrs)**
(Mobile Phone Users must
prefix 0800 number with a *)