

## The Weir

The grassed area behind the rails to be cut four times a year.

The area of bulrush growth on the water's edge to be cut back annually, above the waterline. When necessary the spread of the bulrush should be restricted by cutting a line between the bulrushes and the water and removing any roots beyond that line.

In accordance with legislation the area must be thoroughly checked prior to cutting to check for any ground nesting birds.

The '**Bird Nesting Season**' is officially from February until the end of August (Natural England) and it is recommended that vegetation works (tree or hedge **cutting**) or site clearance should be done outside of the nesting season. However, in reality the **nesting** period may start before this and extend beyond it, in some cases.

CommoName: **Bulrush**

Genus: Typha

Species: gracilis

Hardiness: **Hardy**

Soil type: **Moist, Boggy**

Height: **100cm**

Spread: **7cm**

Time to divide plants: **March to March**



This bulrush is, in the wild, found growing beside lakes and ponds. The flowers are catkins, which gradually turn brown, releasing downy seeds that get wafted away on the breeze. Plant it in an aquatic basket and it'll be well behaved, unable to spread by runners. If you have a large pond, set it in the mud, but be prepared to do an annual cull to stop it going everywhere. Plant it from 30-40cm deep under water. For small ponds stick to the 75cm-high Typha minima.

## Cattail vs. Bulrush



Bulrushes is the vernacular name for several large wetland grass-like plants in the sedge family (Cyperaceae).

The name is particularly applied to several sedge family genera: Outside of the sedge family, the name is used for *Typha*, a genus in the family Typhaceae. The Botanical Society of Britain and Ireland recommends "bulrush" as a common name for plants in the genus *Typha*. These species are sometimes known as reed mace in the United Kingdom. They are sometimes also called cattails.

### Management of Cattails

If you cut the cattails below the waterline, they will die. However, there may already be a new shoot starting that you don't see. If you cut and the stalk is above water, you're wasting your time. These need to be dug out removing the thick tuber.

If you wish to control and not completely remove the cattails, then you'll need to use a spade to cut a line between the bulrushes and the water. Once this line has been cut, any roots beyond that line need to be removed.