



HANNINGFIELD

WATERSIDE PARK

HINTS AND TIPS

Following these simple hints and tips will help you catch more fish on our waters.

- Use a free running ledger – a common mistake some bait anglers make is to tie the ledger weight or feeder directly to the main line. The result is lots of missed bites as the trout feel the resistance of the weight or feeder. A free running set up will result in more confident bites and a better catch rate. If you are not sure how to set this up please ask the ranger team and we will be pleased to help.
- Washing line. When fly fishing in ideal conditions and trout are feeding in the top few inches even none weighted flies can drop below the trout's field of vision. Placing a booby or muddler on the point will hold the flies at a constant depth.
- Keep on the move especially during very hot or cold weather. It is essential to keep moving in order to catch consistently. Travel light and spend no more than 30mins in one area without success.
- Dry fly fishing. One method often overlooked by anglers is fishing dries 'blind' (when no fish can be seen rising) Often the only reason they can not be seen is because there is simply no fly hatching.
- Try two different colours of PowerBait eggs on the same hook, this technique has been used very successfully over recent seasons. Try fishing a pink and yellow egg with a feeder filled with Powerbait paste, this method has consistently taken limit catches when others have struggled.
- Depth can be crucial when spinning. Using a simple countdown method can pay dividends. Start the retrieve immediately on the 1st cast then after a count of two on the 2nd and so on until the fish are located.
- Set the drag! Many trout are lost due to incorrectly set reel drag systems. With many fantastic double figure fish waiting to be stocked this season we urge all anglers to ensure reels are at the correct setting before fishing. It is also good practice to ensure your reel line and leader material is in good condition by replacing annually. Renewing weak line and leader material will avoid lost fish.

If you would like some further advice and guidance please ask our ranger team, they will be delighted to help and assist you in any way they can.