

Crime prevention advice for **crop circles**



The creation of a crop circle without the prior consent of the land owner is an act of criminal damage and should be treated as such. In addition to the short and long term damage to the crop and field, crop circles encourage further criminal activity in the form of trespass and opportunistic theft from nearby buildings etc.

This is the advice supplied to us by the NFU

- Creating crop circles on farmland is unfair and irresponsible - crop circlers always seem to forget that they are damaging someone's property.
- Farmers are busy growing high quality, great tasting ingredients for us to eat and crops cannot be harvested when they've been trampled flat.
- There is also a wide reaching impact especially when food security and feeding a growing worldwide population is such an issue.
- This is a seasonal issue and can cost farmers tens of thousands of pounds.
- Crop circle tourists who park their cars in gateways and then walk through the crops to get a closer look at the patterns also cause problems and further damage to the fields and the environment.
- Although various unorthodox explanations have been put forward for these phenomena, the NFU firmly believes that crop circles are man-made.

Reporting a crop circle – allowing/ not allowing access

Once a crop circle is discovered we ask that members **report them to the police** asap – regardless of if they intend to allow the public to access it, to cut it out, to claim on insurance or not.

Contact the local Safer Neighbourhood Team or call the police on 101.

If, as the land owner you wish to **make it clear that the public cannot access the circle**, it's recommended you place signs around the field informing the public of no access.

If you wish to allow the public to access the circle, remember you have a responsibility for their health and safety while they are accessing your land. You may want to discuss this with your insurance company.