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Director

Commonwealth of Massachusetts

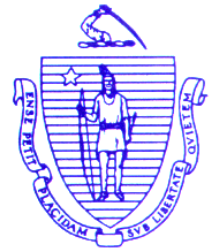
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April 4, 2018

Marine Fisheries Advisory

2018 Horseshoe Crab Spawning Closure Dates

To promote the conservation of horseshoe crabs, the commercial horseshoe crab fishery is closed to harvest during five-day lunar closure periods coinciding with the second lunar period in April and each new and full moon in the months of May and June. Closures will begin at 12:00AM (midnight) two days prior to the new or full moon and end at 11:59PM two-days after the new or full moon.. The horseshoe crab spawning closure dates are captured in the calendars below. A full text copy of the regulations relevant to horseshoe crabs can be found at [322 CMR 6.34](#).

For more information regarding horseshoe crabs, please visit the *Marine Fisheries* website (www.mass.gov/marinefisheries) or contact our Invertebrate Species Program at our New Bedford field office (508 742-9726).

2018 Lunar Closures for Horseshoe Crabs

~ April 2018 ~						
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27 NO FISHING	28 NO FISHING
29 NO FISHING	30 NO FISHING					

~ May 2018 ~						
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1 NO FISHING	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13 NO FISHING	14 NO FISHING	15 NO FISHING	16 NO FISHING	17 NO FISHING	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27 NO FISHING	28 NO FISHING	29 NO FISHING	30 NO FISHING	31 NO FISHING		

~ June 2018 ~						
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11 NO FISHING	12 NO FISHING	13 NO FISHING	14 NO FISHING	15 NO FISHING	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26 NO FISHING	27 NO FISHING	28 NO FISHING	29 NO FISHING	30 NO FISHING