



The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

Division of Marine Fisheries

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March 29, 2021

Marine Fisheries Advisory

2021 Horseshoe Crab Lunar Spawning Closure Dates

To promote the conservation of horseshoe crabs, the commercial horseshoe crab fishery is subject to five-day lunar spawning closures during the springtime. These closures occur for five-day periods coinciding with each new and full moon occurring between April 16 and June 30. Closure periods begin at 12:00AM (midnight) two days prior to each new or full moon and end at 11:59PM two-days after each new or full moon. The exact closure for 2021 are captured in calendar below. A full text copy of the regulations relevant to horseshoe crabs is available at [322 CMR 6.34](#).

April

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 No Fishing
25 No Fishing	26 No Fishing	27 No Fishing	28 No Fishing	29	30	

May

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

June

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

For more information please visit our website: www.mass.gov/marinefisheries.