



David E. Pierce, PhD.
Director

Commonwealth of Massachusetts

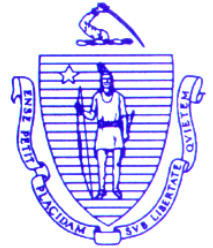
Division of Marine Fisheries

251 Causeway Street, Suite 400

Boston, Massachusetts 02114

(617) 626-1520

fax (617) 626-1509



Charles D. Baker
Governor

Karyn E. Polito
Lieutenant Governor

Matthew A. Beaton
Secretary

George N. Peterson, Jr.
Commissioner

Mary-Lee King
Deputy Commissioner

April 11, 2017

Marine Fisheries Advisory

2017 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. Our lunar calendar is derived from [NOAA data](#) and adjusted for Eastern Standard Daylight Savings Time. 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 (508-990-2860 x 148).

2017 Lunar Closures for Horseshoe Crabs

April 2017						
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 Closed	25 Closed	26 Closed	27 Closed	28 Closed	29
30						

May 2017						
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8 Closed	9 Closed	10 Closed	11 Closed	12 Closed	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23 Closed	24 Closed	25 Closed	26 Closed	27 Closed
28	29	30	31			

June 2017						
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7 Closed	8 Closed	9 Closed	10 Closed
11 Closed	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21 Closed	22 Closed	23 Closed	24 Closed
25 Closed	26	27	28	29	30	