



Narragansett Bay
Research Reserve
www.nbnerr.org



Monitoring Alien Invaders



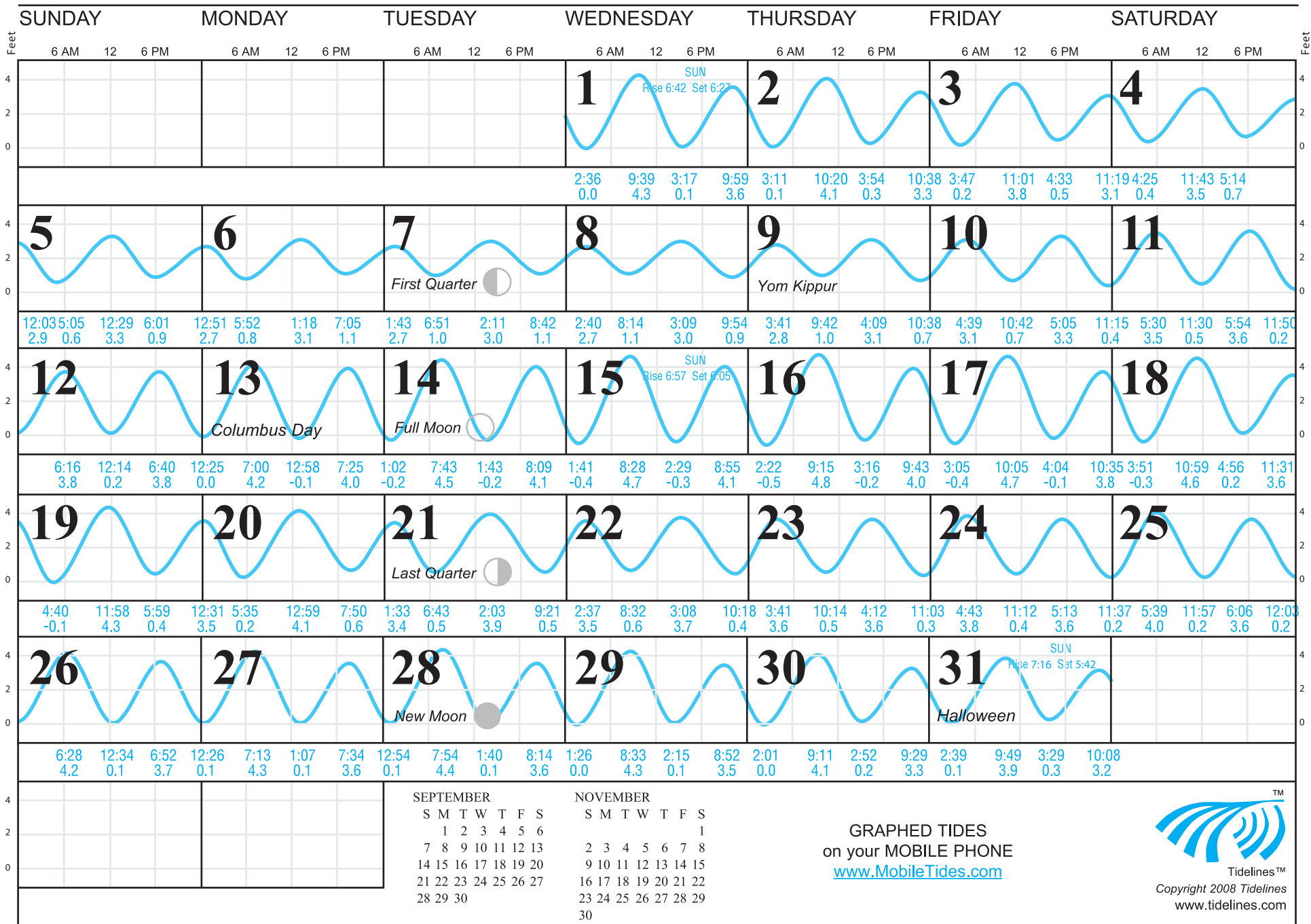
The Asian shore crab arrived from Japan in the 1980s and has since spread from South Carolina to Maine. Invasive species become common in new areas when there is plenty of food, few predators, and native species that can be out-competed for food and space.

What Asian shore crabs eat in Narragansett Bay and which predators eat them, is largely unknown. Scientists are concerned about the crabs' impact on important fish species and marine plants. The Reserve is working with partners to better understand Asian shore crabs.

Left: Photo by Reserve Staff
Sampling cobble beaches for crabs
Above: Photo by Reserve Staff
Measuring an Asian shore crab
(*Hemigrapsus sanguineus*)

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