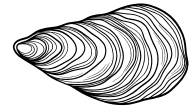


# Oyster Care Guide



## Supplies and Safety

Bring your gloves, scraper, and sun protection with you. Oysters, along with other organisms you may encounter, can be very sharp. Wear gloves at all times when handling your habitat and oysters.

## Timeline of Oyster Care



### 1<sup>st</sup> Month!

Leave out for 3-4 hours, once a week



### 2-4 Months!

Leave out for 8 hours once a week and scrape off fouling



### 5-9 Months!

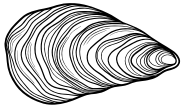
Leave out for 8 hours, twice a week and scrape off fouling



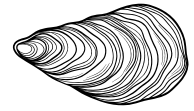
## Habitat Care

Pull your habitat out of the water once per week. Gently flush the habitat by pulling it up and down in the water column to allow for any fish or crabs to exit the habitat. Rinse your habitat and oysters with fresh water and leave out on your dock for the appropriate amount of time. Set a timer so you don't forget! Scan the QR code for a full habitat care video tutorial.





# Oyster Care Guide



## Oyster Gardening Friend or Foe?



Flatworm



Blue Crab



Crown Conch

These animals are Oyster Predators!

Remove these animals ASAP!



Stone Crab



Oyster Toadfish



Sheepshead

## Fouling Animals



Scan this QR code for a fouling removal tutorial!



Barnacles



Freshwater Mussels



Tube Worms

Barnacles, tube worms and freshwater mussels are common fouling species we see in the IRL. It is important to scrape them off of the oysters as soon as possible. They can restrict water flow and even cement the oysters shut!

## Contact Us!

Restore Our Shores is looking forward to helping guide you through your oyster gardening season. The gardening season can be 6-9 months. We will be out halfway through the season to check oyster growth!

Questions? Email us at [RestoreOurShores@BrevardZoo.org](mailto:RestoreOurShores@BrevardZoo.org)

