

Northern Moon Snail, *Euspira heros*

Lobed Moon Snail, *Neverita duplicata*

Brown, beige or gray, the Northern Moon Snail can be found in shallow water with sandy bottoms. The Lobed Moon Snail ranges in color from brown to beige with a purple or brown callus (bottom). Lobed Moon Snails are also called shark eyes. Both species are carnivores and prey on other mollusks like Surf Clams, Razor Clams, hard clams, mussels, and other moon snails. They start by wrapping themselves around their prey with their foot. Then, using their radula (sharp tongue with teeth) and a secretion, they carve into its prey's shell. Once the hole is made, the snail uses its proboscis (tubular sucking organ) to digest the soft tissue of its prey. If you happen to find a clam shell with a hole in it, chances are it was made by a moon snail. Another fun fact: did you know that as the snails grow, their shells grow with them? When they die their shell is left behind for hermit crabs or other marine species.



Northern Moon Snail (above)



Lobed Moon Snail (above)



Clams that were prey of the moon snail.

Atlantic Oyster Drill, *Urosalpinx cinerea*

These pretty little shells are home to vicious one-inch snails with various colors from dark grey, purple or tan to yellowish white. The Oyster Drill preys on oysters, barnacles, mussels and clams. Using a secretion that softens the shell first, the Oyster Drill uses its radula, a file-like organ that makes a hole in the prey's shell to feed on the soft tissue.



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