

**Tonging.**

An. Code, 1924, sec. 1. 1912, sec. 1. 1904, sec. 1. 1894, ch. 380, sec. 1. 1900, ch. 380. 1910, ch. 413, sec. 1 (p. 205). 1920, ch. 680. 1927, ch. 463, sec. 1.

1. Any resident of this State desiring to catch oysters with rakes or tongs for sale in any of the waters of this State shall first obtain by application to the Clerk of the Circuit Court for the county wherein he may reside a separate license for every person to be employed on such boat, and such license shall have effect from the first day of September, in the year which it may have been obtained, to the fifteenth day of April, inclusive, next succeeding; provided that any laws either local or public, now in effect or which may become in effect curtailing the open season provided above, such local or public general laws shall prevail, except in Talbot County and in the waters of the Choptank River used in common by the residents of Talbot and Dorchester Counties. Such license shall not authorize the taking or catching of oysters in any creek, cove, river, inlet, bay or sound within the limits of any county other than that wherein the license shall have been granted; and that the boundaries of the counties on navigable waters shall be strictly construed so as not to permit the residents of either county to take or catch oysters beyond the middle of the dividing channel; provided, that nothing in this section shall be so construed as to prevent the citizens of Queen Anne's and Kent Counties from using the waters of Chester River in common, or the citizens of Dorchester and Wicomico Counties from using the waters of Nanticoke River in common, or the citizens of Queen Anne's and Talbot Counties from using the waters of the Wye River and the mouth thereof in common, or the citizens of Dorchester and Talbot Counties and bona fide residents of the Fourth Election District of Caroline County who shall have resided in said district not less than one year next preceding from using the waters of the Choptank River in common; provided, however, that the County Commissioners shall be authorized to give special permission to any woman who has no visible means of support to take and catch oysters without license. Provided, that the open season for the taking or catching of oysters in the Tred Avon River and the tributaries in Talbot County shall be from the first day of September to the fifteenth day of April, each year, both dates inclusive.

An. Code, 1924, sec. 2. 1912, sec. 2. 1904, sec. 2. 1894, ch. 380, sec. 2. 1890, ch. 380. 1910, ch. 413, sec. 2 (p. 206). 1927, ch. 127, sec. 2.

2. Each and every license issued in conformity to the provision of Section 1 of this Article shall state the name, color, age and residence of the person to whom the license is to be granted; the number thereof, and the county in which the same is to be used, and every applicant for such license shall pay to the clerks of the circuit court when such license may be granted, and before the issuing and delivery of the same, five dollars, the clerk to receive twenty-five cents for each and every such license as a fee for issuing the same, including administering the oath when required. One-half of the amount received for such license shall be paid by the clerk