

The Advisory Committee on Oysters shall advise and work with the Conservation Commission in the buying of shells and oysters for planting, shall supervise planting and shall suggest and recommend places and bars, in the tributaries of the Chesapeake Bay as well as in the Bay itself, where planting is most needed. On request of said Committee, or any of them, the Conservation Commission, shall have power to order the local Boats of the State Fishery Force, with the Deputy Commanders, to be placed at its or his disposal for use in its work. Said Committee shall also suggest and recommend the best time and season for planting, each member of said Committee determining the time and season to be recommended for his own district. The Committee and each of them shall assist the Conservation Commission in detecting and reporting violations of the oyster, fish and crab laws of this State, and generally in the work of bettering conditions in the oyster, fish and crab industry.¹

Reserved Areas.

An. Code, 1924, sec. 156. 1912, sec. 132. 1914, ch. 753. 1917, ch. 12, sec. 132. 1927, ch. 123, sec. 156.

159. The Conservation Commission of Maryland is hereby authorized to select and reserve for oyster conservation, as provided in this sub-title, any portion or portions of the natural beds, bars and rocks of the Chesapeake Bay in dredger's area to be replenished by transplanting of small oysters, shells or other cultch, or in other feasible manner which the Commission may deem best. The Commission shall give notice of said reservation by advertisement to be inserted once a week for three successive weeks, in a newspaper published in Baltimore City, and in the County where the reserved area is located, which advertisement shall describe the area reserved and give the date on which the reservation takes effect, and shall warn all persons not to catch or disturb oysters upon such reserved area until further notice from the Commission for re-opening same for public use. Whenever in the discretion of the Commission such reserved areas shall have been replenished, it shall fix dates for re-opening and closing same to the public, and shall give notice thereof by proper advertisement inserted as above provided. Whenever after the re-opening of the area, the Commission in its discretion deems it advisable to close said area before the date advertised in said notice, then the area shall be reserved against the further catching of oysters for public use. No further notice to oystermen is necessary than the notification by the Deputy Commander in charge of said area. Any person who shall catch or disturb oysters upon such reserved areas between the date reservation begins and the date fixed by the Commission for re-opening same, shall be guilty of a misdemeanor, and upon conviction thereof before any Judge or Justice of the Peace of the County having jurisdiction, or if in the Chesapeake Bay in the County most accessible or convenient shall be fined not less than \$100.00 nor more than \$200.00 or confined in jail not less than 30 days nor more than 6 months, either or both, and the said cargo confiscated and returned to the waters under the supervision of the Deputy Commander or other officer making the arrest, and the boat or vessel shall be held for the security of payment of said fine.

¹ This Section repealed by Ch. 353, 1939. But as Act is subject to referendum vote at the November election, 1940, this section will not be repealed unless a majority of the voters voting thereon are in favor of said Act. If said Act is approved, this section will be repealed as of Dec. 5, 1940.