

title "Oysters and Clams", sub-heading "General Provisions Applicable To The Taking or Catching of Oysters and Clams", said new section to follow immediately after Section 651 (f) thereof; and to add Section 663 (f) to said Article, sub-heading "Clams", to follow immediately after Section 663 (e) thereof, authorizing the taking of clams with a shinnecock rake, providing for licensing the same, setting the season when a shinnecock rake may be used for the taking of clams, levying an inspection tax, empowering the Commission of Tidewater Fisheries to reserve breeding areas for hard shell clams (*Venus mercenaria*), setting penalties and, in general, regulating the taking or catching of hard shell clams with the device known as "shinnecock rake" in the waters of ~~this State~~ WORCESTER COUNTY.

SECTION 1. *Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Maryland,* That a new Section 651 (g) be and it is hereby added to Article 66C of the Annotated Code of Maryland (1951 Edition), title "Natural Resources", sub-title "Oysters and Clams", sub-heading "General Provisions Applicable To The Taking or Catching of Oysters and Clams", to follow immediately after Section 651 (f) thereof; and that a new Section 663 (f) be and it is hereby added to said Article, sub-heading "Clams", to follow immediately after Section 663 (e) thereof, and all to read as follows:

651.

(g) *Shinnecock Rake—It shall be legal* ILLEGAL to take or catch hard ~~shell~~ SHELL clams (*Venus mercenaria*) in the waters of this State with a "shinnecock rake" or similar device. EXCEPT IN WORCESTER COUNTY.

663.

(f) *Taking Clams with Shinnecock Rake—*

(1) *Shinnecock Rake License—Any person who shall employ any boat in taking hard shell clams (*Venus mercenaria*) with a shinnecock rake, or similar device, shall first obtain a shinnecock rake license for such boat.*

(2) *How To Apply For Shinnecock Rake License—Any person wishing to take hard shell clams by shinnecock rake, or similar device, shall appear before the Department of Tidewater Fisheries and make application for a shinnecock rake license. Every such applicant shall exhibit to said Department satisfactory evidence showing the name or number of the boat and the size of the shinnecock rake to be used on said boat; and make oath or affirmation that he is the owner of such boat and that he has been a resident of the County in which he desires to take or catch hard shell clams for one year prior to the making of such application.*

(3) *Issuance of License—Upon the receipt of such application and upon making such oath or affirmation, the Department of Tidewater Fisheries shall issue a shinnecock rake license for the taking of hard shell clams for such boat in the County of which the applicant is a resident and shall receive therefor \$10.00. Licenses issued hereunder shall be valid for the period from the fifteenth day of November to the fifteenth day of March next succeeding, both dates inclusive.*