

DEVISING BY WILL OR PROHIBIT THE DESCENDENTS OF ANY LESSEE, HIS HEIRS, OR NEXT OF KIN, FROM INHERITING RIGHTS BY THE OPERATION OF THE LAWS OF DESCENT AND DISTRIBUTION. IF AN EXISTING LEASE DOES NOT PROVIDE FOR RENEWAL, THE DEPARTMENT MAY GRANT RENEWAL WHEN THE LEASE TERMINATES UNLESS GOOD CAUSE TO THE CONTRARY IS SHOWN. HOWEVER, A PERSON MAY NOT LEASE MORE ACREAGE THAN NOW AUTHORIZED BY LAW REGARDLESS OF THE MANNER IN WHICH THE LEASE OR THE RIGHTS UNDER THE LEASE ARE OBTAINED.

(C) SUBMERGED LANDS NOT LEASABLE. - A LEASE MAY NOT BE GRANTED FOR ANY OF THE FOLLOWING SUBMERGED AREAS OF THE STATE, AND A PERSON MAY NOT ACQUIRE BY LEASE, ASSIGNMENT, APPROPRIATION, OR OTHERWISE ANY OF THE ENUMERATED AREAS: ANY AREA BENEATH ANY CREEK, COVE, BAY, OR INLET LESS THAN 300 FEET WIDE AT ITS MOUTH AT MEAN LOW TIDE; ANY NATURAL OYSTER OR NATURAL CLAM BAR AS DEFINED IN THIS SUBTITLE; ANY AREA WITHIN 150 FEET OF ANY NATURAL OYSTER OR NATURAL CLAM BAR; ANY AREA WITHIN 600 FEET OF ANY NATURAL OYSTER OR CLAM BAR; ANY CLAM BED AS DEFINED BY THE CHARTS OF THE OYSTER SURVEY OF 1906 TO 1912 AND ITS AMENDMENTS. ANY LEASE GRANTED IN VIOLATION OF THE PROVISIONS OF THIS SUBSECTION IS NULL AND VOID AND THE LAND DESCRIBED IN THE LEASE SHALL REVERT TO THE STATE AS THOUGH A LEASE HAD NOT BEEN MADE.

(D) AMOUNT OF LAND LEASABLE. - A LEASED OYSTER BOTTOM SHALL BE AS RECTANGULARLY SHAPED AS POSSIBLE. A TRACT OR PARCEL OF LAND MAY NOT BE LEASED IN ANY OF THE FOLLOWING WATERS IF IT FALLS SHORT OF THE MINIMUM AREA OR EXCEEDS THE MAXIMUM AREA SPECIFIED BELOW:

- WATERS OF THE CHESAPEAKE BAY  
LYING OUTSIDE COUNTY  
WATERS . . . . . 5 ACRES TO 500 ACRES
- TANGIER SOUND. . . . . 1 ACRE TO 100 ACRES
- WORCESTER COUNTY . . . . . 1 ACRE TO 50 ACRES
- ALL OTHER COUNTIES . . . . . 1 ACRE TO 30 ACRES

REVISOR'S NOTE: Subsection (a) presently appears as Article 66C, section 708 (a) of the Code. New language derived from Article 66C, section 708(e) is added to indicate that only residents may lease and that corporations and joint stock companies may not lease. In addition, new language is