

owner's agent a certain opportunity to retake possession of the vessel; creating a penalty for a person who violates this Act; providing for the application of this Act; and generally relating to the removal of vessels from marinas.

~~BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,~~

~~Article - Natural Resources~~

~~Section 8-721~~

~~Annotated Code of Maryland~~

~~(1990 Replacement Volume and 1994 Supplement)~~

BY adding to

Article - Natural Resources

Section 8-721.1

Annotated Code of Maryland

(1990 Replacement Volume and 1994 Supplement)

SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND, That the Laws of Maryland read as follows:

Article - Natural Resources

8-721.

(a) ~~In this section, "abandoned vessel" means any vessel that:~~

(1) ~~Is left illegally or has remained without permission for more than 30 days on public property, including public marinas, docks, or boatyards;~~

(2) ~~Has remained on private property, including private marinas, docks, or boatyards [for more than 180 days] without the consent of the owner or person in control of the property FOR MORE THAN:~~

~~(I) 180 DAYS; OR~~

~~(II) 24 HOURS IF THE PROPERTY OWNER HAS POSTED, IN CONSPICUOUS LOCATIONS ON THE PROPERTY, NOTICE THAT VESSELS REMAINING ON THE PROPERTY WITHOUT PERMISSION FOR MORE THAN 24 HOURS ARE SUBJECT TO REMOVAL BY THE PROPERTY OWNER; or~~

(3) ~~Has been found adrift or unattended in or upon the waters of the State, and is found in a condition of disrepair as to constitute a hazard or obstruction to the use of the waters of the State or presents a potential health or environmental hazard.~~

(b) ~~The Department may seize, remove, and take into custody any abandoned vessel. For this purpose, the Department may use its own personnel, equipment, and facilities or use other persons, equipment, and facilities for removing, preserving, or storing abandoned vessels. The Department may not be held liable for any damage to an abandoned vessel which may occur during removal, storage, or custody of the vessel.~~