

bar or bed, wherever it may appear, is to be construed to mean shelly bottoms and where oysters grow, and where persons have resorted to within the past twelve months prior to taking up said lot, and that three months' peaceful possession of such location shall constitute a good and sufficient title thereto; should anyone within three months be charged with locating any natural bar or bed, the question may at once be submitted to the Judges of the Circuit Court of Calvert County, who shall, after due notice, hear the testimony and decide the case; but unless complaint is made to the Circuit Court of Calvert County within three months from date of locating the lot, the person locating or appropriating the same shall have an undisputed right to said grounds during his or her natural life, and the Circuit Court of Calvert County shall not have jurisdiction to entertain any proceedings to set aside said location of lot; and, provided, further, that all persons locating or appropriating such five acre lot, shall pay an annual tax of one dollars for each and every acre so appropriated or taken up, the said tax to be paid annually on or before the first day of July in each year for the next ten years, and after the year 1914 the said lots or appropriated grounds shall be subject to such changes in the rate of annual tax as may be agreed upon by the Board of County Commissioners of Calvert County; provided, said tax rate shall not exceed the rate of three dollars per acre for any one year, and in the event of the annual tax not having been paid to the County Commissioners of Calvert County on or before July 1st of each year then the said lots to revert in common to the free use of the citizens of Calvert County. The taxes received from rental of lots or appropriated grounds, when paid to the County Commissioners, shall be applied to permanent repairs of the public roads in Calvert County; and, be it further provided, that any person or persons who may be convicted of taking or catching oysters from any grounds so located, and knowing the same to have been so located, shall, upon conviction before the Circuit Court in Calvert County, be sentenced to the House of Correction for not less than one year, nor more than two years.

Annual tax.

Taking oysters
from located
grounds.

Prior rights.

SEC. 2. *And be it enacted*, That nothing in this Act shall affect or repeal the rights of those who had located such five acre lots prior to the passage of this Act; provided, the said owner of the five acre lots previously located shall pay annually the tax as provided for in Section 46.

SEC. 3. *And be it enacted*, That this Act shall take effect from the date of its passage.

Approved April 12, 1904.