



March 29, 2025

Animals and Fish - Historical Notes

Dear Reader:

The following document was created from the CTAS website (ctas.tennessee.edu). This website is maintained by CTAS staff and seeks to represent the most current information regarding issues relative to Tennessee county government.

We hope this information will be useful to you; reference to it will assist you with many of the questions that will arise in your tenure with county government. However, the *Tennessee Code Annotated* and other relevant laws or regulations should always be consulted before any action is taken based upon the contents of this document.

Please feel free to contact us if you have questions or comments regarding this information or any other CTAS website material.

Sincerely,

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The following is a listing of acts that at one time affected, but no longer appear to have any effect on, hunting, fishing or animal control in Moore County. They are included herein for reference purposes. Also referenced below are acts which repeal prior law without providing new substantive provisions.

1. Private Acts of 1915, Chapter 206, was the first stock or fence law for Moore County, making it unlawful for stock to be allowed to run at large except on unfenced ranges in the county. This act also gave damaged property owners the right to impound the wandering livestock and a lien on them for payment of damages. This act was amended by the Private Acts of 1919, Chapter 147, to provide that persons cultivating lands adjacent to unfenced ranges could not recover for damages caused by livestock running at large unless such cultivated lands were enclosed by a lawful fence. The original act was also amended by Private Acts of 1923, Chapter 293, to make it a misdemeanor to willingly violate any provisions of the act.
2. Private Acts of 1929, Chapter 695, made it unlawful to catch fish with a hook and line or with a trot line in any month of the year in Moore County. In addition, it would be unlawful to use baskets with wooden slats or wire.
3. Private Acts of 1935, Chapter 57, provided that any landowner and/or his guest, could hunt quail, partridge, rabbits, or squirrels between November 1st and March 1st of each year. This act never really had any effect, since it was repealed later in the 1935 session by Private Acts of 1935, Chapter 417.
4. Private Acts of 1935, Chapter 231, required hunters to receive the permission of the landowner before hunting or fishing in Moore County, but relieved them of any duty to purchase a hunting or fishing license. It would be unlawful for residents to hunt or trap any furbearing animals, except Red Fox, between November 15 and February 15.
5. Private Acts of 1935, Chapter 632, made it lawful to buy and/or sell furs from wild animals in Moore County, without payment of any license fee for such a privilege.

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