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Chapter II - Animals and Fish

Dear Reader:

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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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Chapter II - Animals and Fish

Foxes

Private Acts of 1953 Chapter 543

SECTION 1. That there shall be a closed season upon foxes at all times, and that foxes may be chased with dogs at any time of the year except during such periods as may be fixed by the Game and Fish Commission for the protection of the species in all counties of this State having a population of not less than 12,270 and not more than 12,280 inhabitants, according to the Federal Census of 1950, or any subsequent Federal Census. Should the Game and Fish Commission determine that there is need for an open season in any such county or counties, they shall have the power and authority to open same for such a period of time as they may deem necessary and advisable.

SECTION 2. That all laws or parts of laws in conflict with this Act be and the same are hereby repealed and that this Act shall take effect from and after its passage, the public welfare requiring it.

Passed: April 9, 1953.

Livestock Inspector

Private Acts of 1951 Chapter 529

SECTION 1. That in counties of this State having a population of not less than Twelve Thousand Nine Hundred (12,900), nor more than Thirteen Thousand (13,000) according to the Federal Census of 1940, or any subsequent Federal Census, there is hereby created the office of Livestock Inspector which office shall be filled by election by the Quarterly County Court at its April Term in the year 1951 and each fourth year thereafter.

SECTION 2. That the duties of said Livestock Inspector shall be to establish quarantines for livestock on any farm or number of adjacent farms in the counties to which this Act applies when livestock in that neighborhood is suffering from an infectious stock disease. For his services as Livestock Inspector he shall be paid from the funds of the county One (\$1.00) Dollar per year, and he shall be entitled to receive for each inspection of livestock found by him to be suffering from some disease a fee to be determined and set by the Quarterly County Court from the owner of such stock.

SECTION 3. That the Livestock Inspector in counties to which this Act applies is hereby authorized and empowered to diagnose, treat, attend, operate on and otherwise care for a sick and injured stock in the counties to which this Act applies whenever called upon to do so by the owner of any stock. For such services he shall be entitled to charge reasonable fees.

SECTION 4. That each person elected to the office of Livestock Inspector shall take an oath to faithfully perform the duties of his said office, which oath shall be filed in the office of the County Court Clerk.

SECTION 5. That this Act shall take effect from and after its passage, the public welfare requiring it.

Passed: March 13, 1951.

Sawdust in Streams

Acts of 1903 Chapter 180

SECTION 1. That it shall be unlawful for any person, firm or corporation to place, cause to be placed in any of the running streams, lakes and ponds in Johnson County, Tennessee, or place so near the banks of said running streams, lakes and ponds so that the same will be washed therein by high tides or overflows, any sawdust, shavings or off fallings from sawmills or planing machines. Provided, that this Act shall not apply to sawmills that do not cut exceeding 2,000 feet of lumber in any one day that is run by water power on any of the streams of Johnson County.

As amended by: Private Acts of 1909, Chapter 65

SECTION 2. That any violation of this Act shall be a misdemeanor and the punishment for each offense shall, upon conviction, be a fine of not less than fifty nor more than two hundred dollars.

SECTION 3. That the grand juries of Johnson County have inquisitorial power under this Act.

SECTION 4. That this Act take effect from and after its passage, the public welfare requiring it.

Passed: March 24, 1903.

Animals and Fish - Historical Notes

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 Johnson County. They are included herein for reference purposes. Also referenced below are acts which repeal prior law without providing new substantive provisions.

1. Public Acts of 1893, Chapter 59, made it unlawful to hunt, kill or capture wild deer in Johnson County from December 1st to September 30th. Any person violating this act was guilty of a misdemeanor and fined not more than \$50.
2. Public Acts of 1899, Chapter 396, made it lawful to fish in Johnson County by means of snare, hook or hands.
3. Private Acts of 1911, Chapter 31, was a fence law for Johnson County, making the owners of domestic animals liable for all damages done by their trespassing upon the cultivated lands or the enclosed uncultivated lands of another.
4. Private Acts of 1915, Chapter 593, made it unlawful for any person to shoot a fox, or to catch, destroy or injure any fox by means of any snare, trap or other device.
5. Private Acts of 1915, Chapter 611, made it lawful to catch fish from any of the streams in Johnson County with hook and line, snare, trot line, gig, or set net during any month except May. Private Acts of 1915, Chapter 666 is identical to Chapter 611.
6. Private Acts of 1921, Chapter 405, exempted Johnson County from the general law regulating the possession and ownership of dogs.
7. Private Acts of 1925, Chapter 305, made it lawful to catch fish by means of gig or fish basket in streams in Johnson County.
8. Private Acts of 1927, Chapter 257, exempted Johnson County from a state-wide law which made it lawful to hunt rabbits or hares in any and all seasons or time of the year and made it lawful to buy and sell, ship or transport rabbits or hares between points within the state.
9. Private Acts of 1929, Chapter 207, made it unlawful to take, kill, wound or chase any male or female deer or fawn in Johnson County, any person violating this act was subject to a fine of \$50.
10. Private Acts of 1931, Chapter 265, made it lawful to kill pheasants, quail and doves from November 1st to January 15th in Johnson County. This act also forbade the killing or trapping of any fur-bearing animals in Johnson County for the next five years.
11. Private Acts of 1931, Chapter 717, was a general game law for Johnson County, setting the open season on pheasants from November 1st to January 1st and a bag limit of five on squirrels.
12. Private Acts of 1935, Chapter 317, set the open season on pheasants, quail and doves from November 25th to February 1st and also provided that landowners could trap fur-bearing animals when they were a menace to crops and poultry.
13. Private Acts of 1937, Chapter 825, regulated the practice of veterinary surgery and prescribed the qualifications for same, and permitted J. Louie Freeman to practice veterinary medicine and surgery in Johnson County.
14. Private Acts of 1939, Chapter 294, set the open season on squirrels in Carter and Johnson counties from September 1st to January 1st.
15. Private Acts of 1967-68, Chapter 266, regulated the hunting of deer in Johnson County and prescribed the penalty for the violation thereof. This was repealed by Private Acts of 1971, Chapter 122.

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