

**DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES
ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION DIVISION**

**NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING AND PROPOSED AMENDMENTS
TO GEORGIA'S RULES FOR SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT
CHAPTER 391-3-4**

TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS AND PARTIES:

Notice is hereby given that, pursuant to the authority set forth below, the Environmental Protection Division (hereinafter, "EPD") of the Georgia Department of Natural Resources proposes amendments to the Georgia Rules for Solid Waste Management, Chapter 391-3-4 (hereinafter, "proposed Rule amendments").

EPD proposes to amend Rules 391-3-4-.01, 391-3-4-.02, 391-3-4-.03, 391-3-4-.04, 391-3-4-.05, 391-3-4-.06, 391-3-4-.07, , 391-3-4-.09, 391-3-4-.12, 391-3-4-.16, and 391-3-4-.19. EPD proposes to amend the Rules by: (1) Revising certain definitions to be consistent with the Georgia Comprehensive Solid Waste Management Act and adding new definitions (391-3-4-.01); (2) Remove requirement for Director to notify legal organ in local jurisdiction when taking action on a permit for a solid waste handling/disposal facility (391-3-4-.03); (3) Adding requirements for mulching operations to help prevent fires (391-3-4-.04); (4) Revise siting criteria to be consistent with the Georgia Comprehensive Solid Waste Management Act (391-3-4-.05); (5) Requirement for certain landfills to submit High Moisture Content Waste management plans (391-3-4-.07); and (6) Deleting references to mulching since section -.04 will cover mulching requirements (391-3-4-.16). Additional clarifications, reference updates, and minor edits are contained in 391-3-4-.02, -.06, -.07, -.09, -.12, and -.19.

This notice, together with an exact copy of the proposed Rule amendments, a synopsis, and a statement of rationale of the rule revisions, is being provided to all persons who have requested in writing that they be placed on a notification list. These documents may be viewed at <https://epd.georgia.gov/chapter-391-3-4-solid-waste-management> and at the Georgia Environmental Protection Division, Land Protection Branch, Solid Waste Management Program, 4244 International Parkway, Suite 104, Atlanta, Georgia, 30354. *Files are currently available for review and copying by appointment, on Mondays from 8:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m., excluding holidays, in accordance with EPD's safety precautions regarding the COVID-19 virus.* To set an appointment, email askepd@dnr.ga.gov with your name, email and phone number and the subject line "Proposed Solid Waste Management Rule Amendments" and an associate will reach out to you. Copies may also be requested by contacting the Land Protection Branch, Solid Waste Management Program at (404) 362-2696 or the Environmental Protection Division Director's Office at 1-888-373-5947.

To provide the public an opportunity to comment upon and provide input into the proposed Rule, a public hearing will be held on **March 31, 2021 (1:00 PM – 3:00 PM)**. In accordance with EPD's safety precautions regarding the COVID-19 virus and in keeping with the Governor's Declaration of a Public Health State of Emergency, EPD will be hosting this public

hearing via Zoom. Zoom is a free web conferencing platform that also allows participation by phone. To ensure that you are ready to participate when the meeting begins, we recommend that you download Zoom in advance. Zoom can be found here: <https://zoom.us>

To log into the public hearing on your computer, please click this link or copy and paste it into your browser to join the meeting:

<https://gaepd.zoom.us/j/91519692139?pwd=UmRQRmJaV0dXaFlaOGRWOFcyL0ZuQT09>

The meeting ID is 915 1969 2139

Passcode: 396337

To dial in by phone, please call this number: 888-788-0099 (Toll free). When prompted, enter the Meeting ID and/or Passcode. Please note that if you choose to participate by phone, your phone number may be visible to other meeting attendees.

During the hearing, anyone may present data, make a statement, comment or offer a viewpoint or argument either orally or in writing. Lengthy statements or statements of a considerable technical or economic nature, as well as previously recorded messages, must be submitted in writing for the official record. Oral statements should be concise

Written comments are welcomed. In order to be included in EPD's summary to the Board of Natural Resources, written comments should be received by close of business (4:30 p.m.) on April 12, 2021. Written comments may be emailed to EPDComments@dnr.ga.gov or sent via regular mail addressed to Branch Chief, Land Protection Branch, 4244 International Parkway, Suite 104, Atlanta, Georgia 30354. If you choose to email your comments, please be sure to include the words "Proposed Solid Waste Management Rule Amendments" somewhere in the subject line to help ensure that your comments will be forwarded to the correct staff.

The proposed rule amendments will be considered for adoption by the Board of Natural Resources at its meeting at 9:00 am on May 25, 2021 at Hard Labor Creek State Park, in the Golf Course Conference Room, located at 1400 Knox Chapel RD Social Circle, GA 30025. In accordance with necessary safety precautions regarding the COVID-19 virus, members of the public are encouraged to access the meeting online or by phone using the Zoom platform. The options for online or phone access will be posted on the Board's website under the "DNR Board Menu" header here: <https://gadnr.org/board>

The rule amendments are proposed for adoption pursuant to authority contained in the Georgia Comprehensive Solid Waste Management Act (O.C.G.A. § 12-8-20, *et seq.*).

For further information, please contact the Land Protection Branch, Solid Waste Management Program at (404) 362-2696.