

**DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES  
ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION DIVISION**

**NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING AND PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO GEORGIA'S  
RULES FOR SAFE DRINKING WATER, CHAPTER 391-3-5**

**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 Rules for Safe Drinking Water, Chapter 391-3-5. EPD proposes to amend provisions of twenty-five Rules in Chapter 391-3-5 to address three categories of amendments: those that address comments from the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and are needed to obtain final primacy approval of Georgia's drinking water rules; those that address state-only items that are not impacted by EPA's primacy review; and those that address general cleanup, including fixing typographical errors and updating the format of rule references throughout most of the Rules being amended.

EPA has reviewed and provided comments to EPD regarding eighteen Rules in this Chapter: Rules 391-3-5-.02, -.10, -.15, -.18, -.20, -.21, -.22, -.23, -.24, -.25, -.27, -.29, -.30, -.32, -.52, -.53, -.54 and -.55. The proposed amendments to these Rules address EPA's comments, which are related to seven prior federal rulemakings, and will ensure consistency between the federal rules and Georgia's rules. EPD is also updating Rule 391-3-5-.19 to incorporate a drinking water contaminant limit that was inadvertently missed. Proposed amendments to these nineteen rules are responsive to the directive in the Federal Safe Drinking Water Act, 40 CFR Part 142, which requires States to adopt new or revised federal regulations in order to maintain primacy (primary enforcement authority) over public drinking water systems. The Director of EPD certifies that the amendments of Rule 391-3-5 are required by 40 CFR Parts 141 and 142, and EPD is delegated by EPA to implement Sections 300f-j of the federal Safe Drinking Water Act.

This notice, together with an exact copy of the proposed rule amendments, a synopsis, and statement of rationale of the proposed rule amendments, is being provided to all persons who have requested in writing that they be placed on a notification list. These documents may be viewed online at <https://epd.georgia.gov/chapter-391-3-5-rules-safe-drinking-water> or on Tuesdays between 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. at the Georgia Environmental Protection Division, Watershed Protection Branch file room, 2 MLK Jr. Drive, SW, West Tower, Balcony, Suite 418, Atlanta, Georgia, 30334. To set an appointment, email [askepd@dnr.ga.gov](mailto:askepd@dnr.ga.gov) with your name, email and phone number and an associate will reach out to you. Copies may also be requested by contacting the Watershed Protection Branch at (404) 463-1511 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 amendments, **a public hearing will be held on Wednesday, December 16, 2020, beginning at 1 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 Emergency, EPD will be hosting this public hearing via Zoom. Zoom is a free web conferencing platform that also allows participation by phone. To participate in the public hearing, please click the following link or copy and paste it into your browser:

[https://gaepd.zoom.us/j/92670631787?pwd=U1pPOUMwSzRFRkhkamRmZzEwYkxEU  
T09](https://gaepd.zoom.us/j/92670631787?pwd=U1pPOUMwSzRFRkhkamRmZzEwYkxEU<br/>T09)

Meeting ID: 926 7063 1787

Passcode: 539896

To dial in by phone, please call this number: 888-788-0099 (Toll-free). When prompted, enter the Meeting ID and/or Passcode shown above.

At the public 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 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 on or before December 18, 2020.** Written comments may be emailed to: [EPDComments@dnr.ga.gov](mailto:EPDComments@dnr.ga.gov) or sent via regular mail addressed to Branch Chief, Watershed Protection Branch; 2 MLK Jr. Drive, SW, Suite 1152, East Tower, Atlanta, Georgia, 30334. If you choose to e-mail your comments, please include the words "Rules for Safe Drinking Water" in the subject line to help ensure that your comments will be forwarded to the correct staff.

The Rule amendment will be considered for adoption by the Board of Natural Resources at its meeting at 9:00 am on January 26, 2021 in the DNR Board Room located at 2 Martin Luther King, Jr. Drive, S. E., Suite 1252 East Tower, Atlanta, GA 30334. The meeting is open to the public. In accordance with necessary safety precautions regarding the COVID-19 virus, there may also be remote public access options such as conference call or videoconference. If so, those options will be posted on the Board's website under the "DNR Board Menu" header here: <https://gadnr.org/board> and distributed by e-mail to those who have signed up for notices from EPD regarding proposed rules.

The proposed rule amendments are proposed for adoption pursuant to authority contained in the O.C.G.A. §§ 12-5-170 et seq.

For more information, please contact Manny Patel, Drinking Water Program Manager, at (404) 657-2044 or [manny.patel@dnr.ga.gov](mailto:manny.patel@dnr.ga.gov).