

Subject: Stakeholder invitation: The Agricultural, Aquacultural and Horticultural Water Usage Certification Rule

You are invited to a stakeholder meeting to discuss the proposed readoption with amendments of the Agricultural, Aquacultural and Horticultural Water Usage Certification Rule, N.J.A.C. 7:20A et seq., which sunsets December 5, 2011. The Department will be making a presentation at the meeting as to what amendments to the rule are under consideration. The Department is considering very limited amendments at this time, incorporating the October 21, 2009 Superior Court of New Jersey, Appellate Division decision and a mechanism to extend the expiration dates of expiring certifications in order to level out the Department's and Agricultural Extension Agent's renewal workload. Upon conclusion of the presentation, the Department is interested in hearing your suggestions on the following:

- 1) Are there any other amendments the Department should consider, and if so what are they?
- 2) In addition to the rule amendments under consideration, what other steps should the Department be taking to further streamline or improve the Agricultural, Aquacultural and Horticultural Water Usage Certification processes while still protecting the water resources of the State and the users of those resources?
- 3) Do the current Agricultural, Aquacultural and Horticultural Water Usage Certification rules provide adequate protection of both ground and surface water resources?

Meeting date: Wednesday, March 23, 2011, 10 a.m. – 12 a.m. at:
Rutgers EcoComplex
1200 Florence-Columbus Rd.
Bordentown, NJ 08505

Due to time constraints, this meeting is by invitation only. You may have a representative attend if you can not, but you must supply the name of the person attending in the RSVP. We can not accommodate additional walk in attendees.

Please RSVP to:
Donna Petinos, Bureau of Water Allocation at donna.petinos@dep.state.nj.us or (609) 292-2957.

If you attend the meeting, please sign in at the lobby receptionist before proceeding to the meeting.

This is not a public hearing, so no formal record of this meeting will be generated, beyond a record of those attending.

Thank you,

Scott Tyrrell, Section Chief

Mail Code 401-03
State of New Jersey
Department of Environmental Protection
Division of Water Supply
Bureau of Water Allocation
Permit Administration and Coordination
PO Box 420
Trenton, NJ 08625-0420

Phone: (609)292-2957
Fax: (609)633-1495
scott.tyrrell@dep.state.nj.us