

The New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection invites you or your representative to attend a meeting of critical stakeholders to provide input on re-adoption of the Endangered Plant Species Program rules (N.J.A.C. 7:5C) as well as potential amendments to the rules. The meeting is scheduled for **March 15, 2011, 10:00 AM, at 501 E. State Street, 5 Station Plaza, 4th Floor Large Conference Room.**

These rules, which are scheduled to expire on May 12, 2011, concern detailed procedures, standards and criteria for developing and adopting a list of endangered plant species native to the State, and contain the official Endangered Plant Species List at N.J.A.C. 7:5C-5.1, which currently includes 339 plant species. N.J.A.C. 7:5C does not provide regulatory protection for listed endangered plant species or the habitats that support these species. However, other regulatory programs within DEP reference this rule and List or have general language with regard to rare, endangered or threatened plant species. The current rules may be accessed at:

http://www.nj.gov/dep/rules/rules/njac7_5c.pdf

Directions to the meeting may be found at:

<http://www.nj.gov/dep/where.htm>

501 E. State Street, or 5 Station Plaza, is located at Building D on the map of the area around 401 East State Street. Convenient parking is located in the pay parking garage adjacent to 5 Station Plaza.

All attendees will be asked to sign a sign-in sheet. This meeting is not a public hearing and no formal record will be generated. However, the sign-in sheet and a brief summary of the meeting will be posted afterwards on the Department's website. Your comments on this rulemaking will be carefully considered by the Department, which intends to file a proposal for re-adoption of this rule in advance of the sunset date.

Please respond to Darin Oliver at darin.oliver@dep.state.nj.us to indicate whether you or a representative plan to attend this meeting.

Thank you for your interest and consideration. I look forward to your attendance and valuable input at this meeting.

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