



Georgia Lakes Society  
www.georgialakes.org

# Watermarks

Georgia Lakes  
Society  
Newsletter

April 2015

*Committed to  
Protecting and  
Preserving  
Georgia's  
Lakes*

## President's Corner

Mark Johnson

**The Georgia Lake Society.** Our name speaks volumes. For one thing, while there are many groups looking after rivers and streams, GLS stands alone as the **one organization committed to Georgia's lakes.** Marty Williams has recently assembled a new brochure for GLS which does a fine job of defining in greater detail exactly what it means for us to "be committed to Georgia's lakes". Since impoundments are so different from moving waters, our mission is not only imperative, it is also daunting!

If we are to adequately address our stated mission we need good leadership and a legion of soldiers monitoring lakes state wide. As the final quarter of my term as president begins, I am most excited about seeing Adopt a Lake make the transition from an oft discussed potential program to something the state and our organization will benefit from for a long time. Our board of directors is filled with very capable teachers and leaders; AAL will give groups of volunteers a reason to get on the lake and involved in GLS. In turn this will no doubt spawn organic ideas from those volunteers about other projects and ways they can positively impact their respective bodies of water. This would be a beneficial cycle- the lakes get better and GLS grows.

GLS  
PO Box 440994  
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## Upcoming Events

[GA Water Resources Conference](#) --- April 28 & 29  
[FLMS Symposium](#) ----- June 8- 11  
[NCLMS Spring Workshop](#) ----- April 28  
GLS Board Meeting ----- TBA on Website -- May

## Membership and Donations

Join the Georgia Lakes Society (GLS) to help protect and preserve our lakes. Membership is open to all individuals, institutions, corporations, and organizations whose interests are consistent with the objectives of the society.

For application and donation information, visit <http://georgialakes.org/membership>

Individual -- \$20	Public Not for profit/ Nonprofit -- \$50
Family -- \$25	Corporate -- \$100
Student--FREE	Sustaining -- \$250

## GLS Visits the 2014 NALMS Conference

**Tony Dodd**

Several GLS members trekked to Tampa, Florida this past November to take in the 34th annual international symposium of North American Lake Management Society held November 12-14, 2014. In fact, GLS members were there to serve multiple roles ranging from expert presenters to students to official GLS affiliate representation. While several of the GLS attendees were there representing their employers, those attending were officially representing GLS were board members Don Kulak, Mary Mayhew, and Marty Williams. Additionally, GLS provided the funding for a student attendee, Stephen Maurano currently attending the University of Georgia. The conference theme featured watershed and in-lake management topics and research efforts. As is typical for NALMs, the meeting provided opportunity for lake managers, regulators, educators, researchers, students and corporate partners from around the continents to share information and learn about advancements in lake issues management. At least two GLS members were able to take in the focused continuing education technical workshops for Collection, Identification, Ecology and Control of Nuisance Freshwater Algae and Using Consumer Sonar, GPS and Cloud-Computing Technology to Map and Monitor Aquatic Habitats which kicked off pre-conference activities on 11 November. The conference was well attended with over 500 conference participants. Also, commercial sponsorship greatly contributed to the success of the conference as 42 vendors of products and consulting expertise made a showing. Well noted Plenary Speakers collectively crafted messages to conference attendees urging a deep caring for precious lake and other natural resources that continually struggle with threat of increasing demographic pressures. Plenary session attendees were educated about the power of communication and further encouraged to not fall victim to being creatures of old habit - but instead to embrace the most current, expanding internet communication tools such as Facebook, Twitter, etc. to aid the cause of aquatic resources research and management. It was good to learn about an apparent rebound in NALMS membership and perhaps higher conference visitation to the NALMS – the world’s oldest and foremost accomplished lake symposia series. Also, it was refreshing to see that the youngest sector of NALMS membership seems to be growing as exhibited by the attendance of students and recent graduates who bring energy and ease of technological advancement to the realm of lake science and management. NALMS offers a great resource for GLS’ technical and outreach growth. Let’s look forward to the NALMS 2015 in historic Saratoga, NY.

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## REPORT ON THE METROPOLITAN NORTH GEORGIA WATER PLANNING DISTRICT BASIN ADVISORY COUNCIL MEETINGS

The January and April Water Planning District Basin Advisory Council (BAC) meetings were attended by several GLS members representing the Chattahoochee, Coosa/Etowah, Lake Lanier and Oconee basins. The April meetings fully engaged the attendees in discussions concerning the state water plan. The BAC members had the opportunity to provide input into how the water plan should be updated in the areas of Water Supply, Watershed and Wastewater. A sampling of these suggestions made at the April Coosa/Etowah, Chattahoochee, Lanier, and Oconee BACs include:

- Water Supply:
  - Increasing the capacity of reservoirs rather than building new reservoirs – Water loss due to evaporation was one of the several reasons behind this suggestion.
  - Groundwater protection through permitting of wells – During the drought several streams ran dry partly due to lowering of the water table through irrigation wells
  - Balancing growth with conservation in planning
- Watershed:
  - Lake water quality protection and data/information needed on small lakes
  - Water Quality Enforcement
  - Education of public officials and staff
  - Education at all levels is crucial: the public, as users and polluters, agencies and courts as enforcers, and legislators and the executive branch as the setters of policy and law.
  - Quality of wetland mitigation
  - Impervious surface runoff – when areas are renovated, runoff be ameliorated through retention basins and rain gardens to assure a more natural stream flow
- Wastewater:
  - Reuse for irrigation
  - More education on septic system maintenance – perhaps with real estate transactions
  - Education of officials and their staff

This is a small set of the discussions. A fuller description of the April meetings and discussions will be in the next edition. ***Consider applying to be on your river basin's BAC!*** (See box at end of this article)

The January BAC meetings were more informative, with excellent presentations. Jim Warren has provided a summary of the Chattahoochee meeting held January 28, 2015 at the Georgia Association of Water Professionals in Marietta, GA. Bev Nicholls, Marty Williams and William “Hap” Tietjen attended the Coosa/Etowah, Lake Lanier and Oconee Basin joint meeting at Sawnee Mountain Preserve, Cumming, GA on January 27<sup>th</sup>.

In both meetings, Danny Johnson of the Metro Water District discussed the 2016 Water Management Plan Update and schedule, a Basin Profiles discussion was led by Chris Faulkner, Metro Water District, and Shayne Wood of CDM Smith, presented an Update on Utility Climate Resiliency Study.

In the Basin Profiles discussion, a graphic of water resources was displayed, but it included few lakes. Jim

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pointed this out as a shortcoming and more lakes/reservoirs/ponds should be included. In follow-up conversation and Chris indicated he would go to the GIS people and see what they could come up with. Jim described the Lake Inventory Initiative and agreed to send him a copy of the plan prepared in [September 2014](#) issue of Watermarks. Jim suggested that Watershed Management was more appropriate for the broad context of water planning than just Stormwater Management. The watershed is always “on” while the stormwater facilities are in use only (primarily) during rain/storm events.

Shayne Wood gave an update on the Utility Climate Resiliency Study which is ongoing. Within the study the Big Creek watershed will be modeled, one of a few to be done. Models will be used calibrated with historical data and for forecasting 40 or 50 years. In the discussion, recommendations were made to incorporate key elements of tree canopy and population into models. Consideration of impervious surface change is currently in the modeling methodology.

In the Chattahoochee BAC meeting, Cory Rayburn, City of Atlanta, Department of Watershed Management discussed the City of Atlanta's Green Infrastructure Ordinance, which was approved in February 2013. Philadelphia's Green Infrastructure Program had been used to formulate the ordinance.

- No support funding for projects provided under the ordinance.
- City of Atlanta Stormwater Guidelines provide Green Infrastructure Stormwater Management Practices directed to two categories of developers for:
  - o Single family homebuilders
  - o Small commercial development [those that create or replace 500 to 5,000 sq ft impervious cover/surface].
- Eight common practices for small commercial development are: Bioretention, Infiltration Trenches, Bioswales, Permeable Pavement, Harvesting/Cisterns, and Green Roofs.

At the Coosa/Etowah, Lake Lanier and Oconee BAC meeting, Dr. David Radcliffe of the University of Georgia gave a very effective presentation on the Gwinnett County study on “The Effect of Septic Systems on Stream Flow and Water Quality” conducted by Dr. Radcliffe, Nahal Hoghooghi and Mussie Habteselassie.

- Nationally 24 million homes are on septic systems and in Georgia there are 1 million.
- Advantages to septic systems include
  - o Lower construction and maintenance costs
  - o elimination of sanitary sewer overflows and leaks
  - o more groundwater recharge and stream flow
- Disadvantages to septic systems include
  - o higher nitrogen in groundwater and streams
  - o discharge into water bodies by failing systems
- The objectives of the study were
  - o to determine the effect of septic systems on stream flow effects on nitrogen in streams
  - o to explore solutions.
- Recommendations from the study include
  - o developing a program of regular pumping of septic tanks,
  - o identifying failing septic systems,
  - o finding a source of funding for retrofitting failing systems
  - o requiring advanced treatment for new homes on lake front properties..

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## APPLICATIONS TO SERVE ON BASIN ADVISORY COUNCILS NOW BEING ACCEPTED!

If you are interested in serving on a river basin advisory council (BAC), go to

<http://www.northgeorgiawater.org/AboutUs/basin-advisory-councils>

Georgia Lakes Society would like to have someone on each of the Basin Advisory Councils who would give us a summary of the meetings. Currently we do not have anyone on the Flint or Ocmulgee BACs.

Anyone interested may attend the meetings as an observer even if they are not part of the actual council.

## Watermarks Information

The Watermarks goal is to enhance communications among GLS members and with academic, business, community and government interests. Watermarks is an Adobe pdf, posted on the GLS website and distributed via an email hyperlinked to that pdf file. The Watermarks editor solicits comments, ideas and future news pieces at [gls@georgialakes.org](mailto:gls@georgialakes.org)

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## Request from Georgia Environmental Protection Division for data to be used in the assessment of Georgia waters

In accordance with the Federal Clean Water Act, Sections 305(b) and 303(d), the Georgia Environmental Protection Division (GA EPD) is gathering water quality data to be used in the assessment of waters for Georgia's 2016 305(b)/303(d) List. Requirements for the submission and acceptance of water quality data for use in listing waters by the GA EPD are set forth in the Rules and Regulations for Water Quality Control, Chapter 391-3-6-.03-(13) and are detailed in a GA EPD document entitled "Guidance on Submitting Water Quality Data for Use by the Georgia Environmental Protection Division in 305(b)/303(d) Listing Assessments." Copies of this guidance document and the applicable Rules and Regulations may be viewed at <http://epd.georgia.gov/field-investigation-quality-assurance-water-quality>.

Any water quality data should be submitted to the following address no later than July 1, 2015 for consideration in the development of Georgia's Draft 2016 305(b)/303(d) List of Waters.

Mailing Address:

GA EPD – Watershed Protection Branch  
Watershed Planning & Monitoring Program  
2 MLK, Jr. Dr. S.W., Suite 1152  
Atlanta, Georgia 30334  
Attention: Ms. Susan Salter

Email Address:

Information may be submitted electronically to the following e-mail address:  
[susan.salter@dnr.state.ga.us](mailto:susan.salter@dnr.state.ga.us).

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**Note:** From time to time the editor will revisit a GLS Newsletter from past years. The following appeared in the Fall 2003 issue, but remains current and worth thinking about. Dan Williams is currently Emeritus Professor of Chemistry and is a member of the current GLS Board.



## **Chemist's Corner**



### **How Green is Your Lake?**

Dan Williams, Ph.D.

Professor of Chemistry, Kennesaw State University

I was reading an article by Ron Struss of the University of Minnesota Extension Service published in the newsletter put out by the Wisconsin Association of Lakes (WAL). The article's title was "One pound of phosphorus produces 500 pounds of algae!?" Much of the newsletter was devoted to the phosphorus link in water quality, but this article really caught my attention. The author himself was assigned the task of finding out where this statement came from, and was it really true? The reason the Georgia Adopt a Lake Program teaches volunteers to monitor for chlorophyll *a* is because as it states on our website ([www.georgialakes.org](http://www.georgialakes.org)): *"Phytoplankton, one of many forms of life in a lake, are microscopic one celled algae living everywhere in the water. Chlorophyll is the green photosynthetic pigment found in these phytoplankton, giving the lake water its green color. Phytoplankton are important not only because they are lowest on the lake's food chain, but also because their abundance directly affect numerous water quality characteristics such as oxygen, temperature and water clarity."* In order for these microorganisms to grow, they need nutrients, phosphorus being one of them along with carbon and nitrogen. Normally, the limiting nutrient is the one which controls the growth. It's like making automobiles. If you have ten engines and twenty auto bodies, you can only build ten cars. You're limiting factor is the engine quantity. In chemistry, we call this principle the Law of Limiting Reagents. In ecology, it's known as Liebig's Law of the Minimum, named after the famous German chemist of the 19th Century, Baron Justis von Liebig. In lakes, nitrogen and carbon are normally in abundant supply, but phosphorus is the limiting nutrient. Thus, the more phosphorus there is, the more phytoplankton and potentially the poorer the water quality. Phosphorus is generally categorized in two flavors. Orthophosphate, chemically symbolized as  $\text{PO}_4^{3-}$ , represents soluble phosphate. Total phosphate (TP) represents all forms of phosphorus, organic and inorganic, dissolved and particulate, and includes orthophosphate. Phytoplankton are essential in the food chain, especially for fish, so it may not be good to have too little. But big bursts of growth can lead to a nasty situation also. This is why most states have outlawed the use of phosphate containing laundry detergents. Phosphate was once used as a "builder" or substance which kept soil from depositing on clothing in the wash cycle, and it was also a major water softener. It has largely been replaced by clay-like material called zeolite or substances like sodium carbonate or borate. So nowadays, one of the main source of phosphorus is, you guessed it, fertilizer. Some folk even fertilize their ponds if the fishing gets bad—no joke. This leads me to my next point. Where might you guess the fertilizer comes from beside a few old-timers who think the pond's too dead for good fishin'? Now before you get that self-righteous "I fertilize my lawn but I don't live near a lake" or "it's those nasty golf courses that pollute our waters" attitude showing, let me be





quick to say that we all live upstream of some water body, and there are many other sources of phosphorus besides fertilizer. Land disturbances from development can be a source since phosphorus can be associated with particulates, a major water pollutant in the metro Atlanta area. And speaking of golf courses, before you start wagging your finger too vigorously, be aware that many managers use low phosphorus fertilizers because they want to keep their water bodies healthy too. Nothing ruins a good game of golf like a stinking water hazard (some think they stink already, but I digress). And should we say anything about geese. That's a topic for another article. The point of this is that phosphorus is all over the place, and it does affect water quality. There are things on an individual level that we can do to help control phosphorus input to our water bodies. Fertilize your lawn with low-phosphate or no-phosphate fertilizer. Georgia soil is typically not phosphorus deficient. Keep a close eye on development in your neighborhood, especially with regard to failing silt fences. Every county has a soil commissioner (an elected official, by the way) who has the responsibility to make sure soil stays on land and does not run off into streams. They are sorely understaffed and need our help in monitoring land disturbances brought on by development. Report any violations of silt fence failure or faulty placement to your soil commissioner. Start an Adopt a Lakes program if you do live near a community lake or reservoir, or even if you live near or around one of Georgia's major lakes. Lake Lanier has a very active AAL program, but Lake Allatoona is wide open, for example. You don't have to do the entire lake. Every little cove counts. Contact GLS ([gls@georgialakes.org](mailto:gls@georgialakes.org)) to see what you can do to help Georgia protect its valuable water resources. A pound of prevention is worth a quarter ton of algae.

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## ***Lake University Workshop a Great Success!***



Jeremy Brown answering questions on the Maintenance of Dams



On February 28th Georgia Lakes Society held their Lake University Workshop at Stone Mountain's Environmental Education Center. 37 attendees enjoyed programs on Dam Maintenance by Jeremy Brown, Marty Williams for Emilie Skinner on "Lakescaping" (shoreline buffers), Adopt-A-Lake by Mary Mayhew, and Derry Stockbridge on Sedimentation-Prevention and Remediation. Completed questionnaires indicated an appreciation of the topics and an interest in similar future events. GLS is grateful to the workshop sponsors: Integrated Lakes Management, Aquascape Environmental, Aquatic Restoration and Siltbusters Dredging Services.



Marty Williams gives Emilie Skinner's presentation on Lakescaping or shoreline buffers.



Derry Stockbridge makes a point during his presentation on Lake Sedimentation-Prevention and Remediation.



Mary Mayhew discusses the Adopt-A-Lake program at the GLS Lake University Workshop at Stone Mountain

## Update on Adopt-A-Lake program

Progress is being made on the final edition and production of the Adopt-A-Lake manual which will be available through the Georgia Environmental Division's Adopt-A-Stream program. Members of the GLS Adopt-A-Lake committee are available to provide instruction and guidance for the establishment of AAL groups on area lakes. For information contact GLS ([gls@georgialakes.org](mailto:gls@georgialakes.org)).

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## Adopt-A-Lake Presentation at Confluence 2015

GLS was asked to present a session on the Adopt-A-Lake program at the Georgia AAS conference, Confluence 2015, held at the Gwinnett County Environmental and Heritage Center on Saturday March 14. Mary Mayhew spoke to an audience of about 20 people on general lake ecology, caring for lakes, how AAS and AAL fit together, and how the AAL program works. There was lively discussion and a variety of questions after the presentation. One person in the audience, a member of an HOA in South Carolina, stayed for some time asking questions about lake monitoring in general and about his lake in particular. Since there is no active AAL program in South Carolina, he was looking for information through Georgia AAS, and found it in GLS. He continues to be in contact with GLS by email.

**DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES - ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION DIVISION**  
**NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING AND PROPOSED RULES FOR**  
**PUBLIC WATER SYSTEMS TO IMPROVE WATER SUPPLY EFFICIENCY**

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 Rules for Public Water Systems to Improve Water Supply Efficiency, Chapter 391-3-33 (hereinafter, "the proposed Rules").

The proposed Rules would create new Chapter 391-3-33 including Rules 391-3-33-.01 through 391-3-33-.05. The proposed Rules address the requirement under O.C.G.A. §12-5-4.1 for the DNR Board to adopt new rules and regulations establishing minimum standards and best practices for monitoring and improving the efficiency and effectiveness of water use by public water systems to improve water conservation.

An exact copy of the proposed Rules, a synopsis, and a statement of rationale of the proposed rules may be viewed at <http://environet.dnr.state.ga.us/33>

**Public Hearing: Tuesday, May 5, 2015 (10:00 am – 11:30 am);** in the EPD Training Center located at 4244 International Parkway, Suite 116, Atlanta, Georgia 30354.

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 by **May 13, 2015**. Written comments may be emailed to: [EPDComments@dnr.state.ga.us](mailto:EPDComments@dnr.state.ga.us) 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 email your comments, please include the words "Water Supply Efficiency Rules" in the subject line to help ensure that your comments are forwarded to the correct staff.

The proposed Rules will be considered for adoption by the Board of Natural Resources at its meeting at 9:00 a.m. on June 24, 2015 in the DNR Board Room located at 2 Martin Luther King, Jr. Drive, Suite 1252, East Tower, Atlanta, Georgia 30334. The meeting is open to the public. For more information, contact Nap Caldwell at (404) 463-4348.

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**NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING AND PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO GEORGIA'S  
RULES FOR OUTDOOR WATER USE, CHAPTER 391-3-30;  
RULES FOR GROUNDWATER USE, CHAPTER 391-3-2; AND  
RULES FOR WATER QUALITY CONTROL, CHAPTER 391-3-6**

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 Outdoor Water Use, Chapter 391-3-30, Rules for Groundwater Use, Chapter 391-3-2, and Rules for Water Quality Control, 391-3-6 (hereinafter, "proposed rule amendments").

**Rules for Outdoor Water Use, Chapter 391-3-30**

The proposed amendments to the Rules for Outdoor Water Use include amending Rules 391-3-30-.01 through .06 to replace the provisions relating to Outdoor Water Use with provisions relating to Drought Management, and adding new Rules 391-3-30-.07 and .08 relating to Drought Management. The title of Chapter 391-3-30 would be changed to "**Drought Management.**" The new Rules for Drought Management are responsive to the requirement under O.C.G.A. § 12-5-8 for the DNR Board to adopt new rules relating to drought management, and are consistent with the provisions of O.C.G.A. § 12-5-7 and other Georgia Code sections charging EPD with the responsibility to ensure that water resources are responsibly conserved.

**Rules for Groundwater Use, Chapter 391-3-2**

Amendments to Rule 391-3-2-.04, "Permit Application. Amended.", of Chapter 391-3-2, Groundwater Use, are proposed to address consistency between the drought contingency plan requirements of these rules and the requirements of the proposed Rules for Drought Management.

**Rules for Water Quality Control, Chapter 391-3-6**

Amendments to Rule 391-3-6-.07, "Surface Water Withdrawals. Amended", of Chapter 391-3-6, Water Quality Control, are proposed to address consistency between the drought contingency plan requirements of these rules and the requirements of the proposed Rules for Drought Management.

An exact copy of the proposed rule amendments, a synopsis, and a statement of rationale of the proposed rule amendments, may be viewed at <http://environet.dnr.state.ga.us/30>

**Public Hearing: Tuesday, May 5, 2015 (1:00 pm – 3:30 pm);** in the EPD Training Center located at 4244 International Parkway, Suite 116, Atlanta, Georgia 30354. During this time period, the proposed rule amendments will be addressed *in the following order*: Outdoor Water Use, Chapter 391-3-30; Groundwater Use, Chapter 391-3-2; Water Quality Control, 391-3-6

At the public hearings, 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 should be received by **May 13, 2015**. Written comments may be emailed to [EPDComments@dnr.state.ga.us](mailto:EPDComments@dnr.state.ga.us) with the words "Drought Management Rules" in the subject line. Include in your written comments which Chapter and/or Rule of the proposed rule amendments you are addressing.

The proposed rule amendments will be considered for adoption by the Board of Natural Resources at its meeting at 9:00 a.m. on June 24, 2015 in the DNR Board Room located at 2 Martin Luther King, Jr. Drive, Suite 1252, East Tower, Atlanta, Georgia 30334. The meeting is open to the public. For more information, contact Nap Caldwell at (404) 463-4348.

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## NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING AND PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO GEORGIA'S RULES FOR WATER QUALITY CONTROL, CHAPTER 391-3-6

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 **Water Quality Control**, Chapter 391-3-6. Specific amendments are proposed to Rule 391-3-6-.03, "**Water Use Classifications and Water Quality Standards.\***", and Rule 391-3-6-.06, "**Waste Treatment and Permit Requirements. Amended.**" (hereinafter, the "proposed rule amendments"). The Director of EPD certifies that the proposed rule amendments are authorized by 40 CFR 131.4, and EPD is delegated by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency to implement Section 303, 304(a), and 307(a) of the Clean 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 may be viewed at <http://environet.dnr.state.ga.us/6> or during normal business hours of 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. 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.

The supporting technical document for the site-specific copper criteria, titled "*Biotic Ligand Model Report for Site Specific Copper Water Quality Standard: Buffalo Creek, Carroll County, Georgia*," and the nomination package for the headwaters of the Conasauga River as an Outstanding National Resource Waters are also available for viewing at <http://environet.dnr.state.ga.us/6> or during normal business hours of 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. In addition, more information regarding EPA's recommended **recreational water quality criteria for the protection of human health** can be found at <http://water.epa.gov/scitech/swguidance/standards/criteria/health/recreation/index.cfm>.

A hearing will provide the public an opportunity to comment upon and provide input into the proposed rule on **Wednesday, June 17, 2015 (1:00 pm – 3:00 pm)** in the Environmental Protection Division Training Center, located at 4244 International Parkway, Suite 116, Atlanta, Georgia 30354.

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 June 26, 2015. Written comments may be emailed to [EPDComments@dnr.state.ga.us](mailto:EPDComments@dnr.state.ga.us) or sent via regular mail addressed to: Elizabeth Booth, Manager, Watershed Planning and Monitoring Program, 2 Martin Luther King, Jr. Drive, Suite 1152, Atlanta, Georgia 30334. If you choose to e-mail your comments, please include the words "Water Quality Standards Triennial Review" 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 a.m. on August 26, 2015 in the DNR Board Room located at 2 Martin Luther King, Jr. Drive, Suite 1252, East Tower, Atlanta, Georgia 30334. The meeting is open to the public.

The proposed rule amendments are proposed for adoption pursuant to authority contained in the O.C.G.A. §§ 12-5-4, 12-5-4.1, 12-5-20 et seq., 12-5-90 et seq., and 12-5-170 et seq. For more information, please contact Elizabeth Booth at (404) 463-4929.

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