

North Georgia Water Resources Partnership

Spring Annual Meeting/ Educational Seminar

RESERVOIR MANAGEMENT PLANS



May 1, 2019

OUTLINE

- **Reservoir Management Plans**
- **Rule Changes**
- **Public Comments**
- **Opportunity & Threats**



RESERVOIR MANAGEMENT PLANS

Purpose:

- The purpose of this plan is to establish reasonable regulations for the water supply reservoir and protection of water quality and to provide for limited recreational activity on same.
- These criteria establish the basis for local governments to allow development of a water supply watershed without contaminating the water source to a point where it cannot be treated to meet drinking water standards.

RULE CHANGES

The amendments to the Rules for Safe Drinking Water and Rules for Environmental Planning Criteria would amend **Rule 391-3-5-.06 “Source of Water Supply”** and **Rule 391-3-16-.01 “Criteria for Water Supply Watersheds”** pertaining to reservoir management plans.

Purpose: To propose rule amendments to emphasize that recreational uses at drinking water reservoirs are allowed as long as the water, after treatment, will meet the Safe Drinking Water standards.

RULE CHANGES

Chapter 391-3-5

Rules for Safe Drinking Water

4. ~~Bathing, water skiing, boating, fishing, or other activities in or upon any natural lake, artificial reservoir or impoundment used as a source of water supply must be prohibited, unless evidence is presented to the Division that the drinking water quality will not be adversely affected by these activities and prior written approval for such activity is obtained from the Division.~~ For water supply reservoirs, a reservoir management plan shall be developed in accordance with Rule 391-3-16-.01(8).

RULE CHANGES

1. ~~Prohibitions or restrictions on all or some of the following recreational uses shall be addressed in the reservoir management plan to protect the water quality of the reservoir for the drinking purposes while optimizing its recreational benefits.~~ Any recreational uses shall take into consideration the protection of the water quality of the reservoir for drinking water purposes. The following recreational uses are permissible in the reservoir management plan if the water quality of the reservoir is adequately protected.

- (i) Swimming;
- (ii) Fishing;
- ~~(iii)~~ (iii) Boating;
- (iv) Docks;
- (v) Public Access; and
- (vi) Adjacent Property Owner Access.

2. The reservoir management plan shall include ~~Aa~~ a buffer that shall be maintained for a distance of 150 feet from the reservoir boundary. The allowable buffer vegetation and disturbance shall be specified in the reservoir management plan. Allowable disturbances may include public and/or private access to the reservoir and/or the buffer via docks, trails, and similar amenities provided that such disturbances are addressed in the reservoir management plan.

3. Reservoir owners ~~upon consideration of ground slopes and soil types;~~ may adopt buffers of differing sizes than in 2. ~~above~~ upon approval of the Department of Natural Resources.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Comments:

Amenity Lakes for Private property owners

Buffer changes without EPD oversight

**Potential for private input into the operation
of the reservoir**

OPPORTUNITIES AND THREATS



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ENDGAME





QUESTIONS?