

Notice of Proposed Rulemaking New York State Department of Environmental Conservation
6 NYCRR Part 215, Open Fires
6 NYCRR Part 191, Forest Fire Prevention
6 NYCRR Part 621, Uniform Procedures

Pursuant to Environmental Conservation Law, Sections 1-0101, 3-0301, 9-0105, 9-1103, 19-0103, 19-0105, 19-0301, 19-0303, 19-0305, 70-0707, 71-2103, and 71-2105, the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation hereby gives notice of the following:

The New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (NYS DEC) proposes to revise 6 NYCRR Parts 215, 191, and 621. Part 215 is being revised to ban most open burning statewide. It is currently only banned in cities, villages and in towns with population greater than 20,000. In addition, the revised rule will limit agricultural burning to naturally grown products such as vines, branches, leaves and stubble. It will also specifically allow such things as fire training, small cooking and camp fires, and ceremonial fires (e.g., proper disposal of U.S. flags by open burning). Finally, the revisions to Parts 215, 191, and 621 will eliminate the need for permits to conduct open burning that is allowed by Part 215.

For further information, contact:

Robert Stanton, P.E.
NYS DEC, Division of Air Resources
625 Broadway
Albany, NY 12233-3254
Phone: (518) 402-8403
E-mail: 215fires@gw.dec.state.ny.us

State of New York Department of Environmental Conservation Hearing Notice

Notice is hereby given that the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (Department), will hold legislative public hearings on amendments to proposed rules, Part 215, Open Fires, Part 191, Forest Fire Prevention and Part 621, Uniform Procedures, pursuant to Environmental Conservation Law, Sections 1-0101, 3-0301, 19-0105, 19-1103, 19-0103, 19-0105, 19-0301, 19-0303, 19-0305, 70-0707, 71-2103 and 71-2105.

Part 215 is being revised to ban most open burning statewide. It is currently only banned in cities, villages and in towns with population greater than 20,000. In addition, the revised rule will limit agricultural burning to naturally grown products such as vines, branches, leaves and stubble. It will also specifically allow such things as fire training, small cooking and camp fires, and ceremonial fires (e.g., proper disposal of U.S. flags by open burning). Finally, the revisions to Parts 215, 191, and 621 will eliminate the need for permits to conduct open burning that is allowed by Part 215.

The Department will provide interpreter services for deaf persons at no charge. Written requests for interpreter services are required and should be submitted by June 9, 2008, to Laura Stevens, NYS DEC, 625 Broadway, Albany NY 12233-3250, Phone: (518) 402-8451, E-mail, airregs@gw.dec.state.ny.us.

Hearings will be held as follows and are scheduled in places that are reasonably accessible to persons with impaired mobility:

Monday, June 23, 2008, 5:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.

Cortlandville Fire Department, 999 Route 13, Cortland, NY 13045

Tuesday, June 24, 2008, 5:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.

Norrie Point Environmental Center, Margaret Lewis Norrie State Park, 256 Norrie Point Way, Staatsburg, NY 12580

Wednesday, June 25, 2008, 9:30 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.

NYS DEC Central Office, 625 Broadway, Public Assembly Room 129, Albany, NY 12233

Wednesday, June 25, 2008, 5:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.

NYS DEC Central Office, 625 Broadway, Public Assembly Room 129, Albany, NY 12233

Thursday, June 26, 2008, 5:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.

Harrietstown Town Hall, Main Street and Lake Flower Avenue, Saranac Lake, NY 12983

Monday, June 30, 2008, 5:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.

Dulles State Office Building, 1st Floor Auditorium, 317 Washington Street, Watertown, NY 13601

Wednesday, July 2, 2008, 5:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.

Genesee Community College, College Drive, Conable Technology Building, Room T102, Batavia, NY 14020

Pursuant to Part 617 of the implementing regulations for the State Environmental Quality Review Act, the Department has prepared a Negative Declaration stating that the proposed actions will not have a significant adverse effect on the environment.

The Department invites all persons, organizations, corporations, and government agencies that may be affected by the proposed revisions to attend the hearings. At each hearing, persons who wish to make a statement will be invited to speak. It is requested that oral statements also be submitted in writing. The Department will give equal weight to written and oral statements, and since a cumulative record will be compiled it is not necessary for interested parties to attend each hearing. Information may be obtained from: Robert Stanton, P.E., NYS DEC Division of Air Resources, 625 Broadway, Albany NY 12233-3254, Phone: (518) 402-8403, E-mail: 215fires@gw.dec.state.ny.us.

Written statements may be submitted until 5:00 p.m., July 10, 2008.

The proposed regulation may be obtained from any of the following Department offices:

NYS DEC - Region 1 Headquarters, SUNY @ Stony Brook, 50 Circle Road, Stony Brook, NY 11790-3409, Attention: Ajay Shah

NYS DEC - Region 2 Headquarters, 1 Hunters Point Plaza, 47-40 21st Street, Long Island City, NY 11101, Attention: Sam Lieblich

NYS DEC - Region 3 Headquarters, 21 South Putt Corners Road, New Paltz, NY 12561, Attention: Ken Grzyb

NYS DEC - Region 4 Headquarters, 1130 North Westcott Rd., Schenectady, NY 12306, Attention: Don Spencer

NYS DEC - Region 5 Headquarters, 232 Golf Course Road, P.O. Box 220, Warrensburg, NY 12885, Attention: James Coutant

NYS DEC - Region 6 Headquarters, Watertown State Office Bldg., 317 Washington St., Watertown, NY 13601, Attention: Thomas Morgan

NYS DEC - Region 7 Headquarters, 615 Erie Boulevard West, Syracuse, NY 13204-2400, Attention: Reginald Parker

NYS DEC - Region 8 Headquarters, 6274 East Avon-Lima Road, Avon, NY 14414, Attention: Thomas Marriott

NYS DEC - Region 9 Headquarters, 270 Michigan Ave., Buffalo, NY 14203, Attention: Larry Sitzman