

NOTE: THIS IS A COURTESY COPY OF THIS NOTICE OF READOPTION. THE OFFICIAL VERSION WILL BE PUBLISHED IN THE JUNE 5, 2017 NEW JERSEY REGISTER. SHOULD THERE BE ANY DISCREPANCIES BETWEEN THIS TEXT AND THE OFFICIAL VERSION OF THE NOTICE, THE OFFICIAL VERSION WILL GOVERN.

ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION

PARKS AND FORESTRY

NEW JERSEY FOREST SERVICE

Notice of Readoption

Forestry

Readoption: **N.J.A.C. 7:3**

Authority: N.J.S.A. 13:1B-3, 13:1B-15.100 through 102,
13:1B-15.106, 13:1D-9, 13:1L-1 et seq., 45:1-9,
45:15C-1 et seq., and 54:23.1 et seq.

Authorized by: Bob Martin, Commissioner
Department of Environmental Protection

Effective Date: May 4, 2017

New Expiration Date: May 4, 2024

Take notice that pursuant to N.J.S.A. 52:14B-5.1, the Forestry rules at N.J.A.C. 7:3 are readopted and shall continue in effect for a seven-year period. The rules had been scheduled to expire on June 4, 2017. The Department of Environmental Protection (Department) has reviewed these rules and has determined that the rules should be readopted because they are necessary, reasonable and proper for the purpose for which they were originally promulgated. In accordance with N.J.S.A. 52:14B-5.1.c(1), timely filing of this notice extended the expiration date of the chapter seven years from the date of filing.

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The Forestry rules implement the State Park and Forestry Resources Act, N.J.S.A. 13:1L-1 et seq., governing the State's forestation program, as it pertains to the distribution by the Department of forestation stock, including seeds and seedlings, and to the use of that stock. The rules also govern the establishment of a list of foresters approved by the Department, which is necessary to implement the Farmland Assessment Act, N.J.S.A. 54:4-23.1 et seq. Under the Farmland Assessment Act, only a forestry professional on the list may certify a woodland owner's application for valuation under the Farmland Assessment Act. Lastly, the rules govern the Board of Tree Expert's certification of persons as Certified Tree Experts, and establishes the qualifications and requirements for practice as a Certified Tree Expert.

The Department published a proposal of a repeal, new rules, and amendments to the Forestry rules, N.J.A.C. 7:3, on April 17, 2017 (49 N.J.R. 690(a)), in which the Department proposed to add new Forest Stewardship Program rules, N.J.A.C. 7:3-5, and new rules governing the Forest Stewardship Advisory Committee, N.J.A.C. 7:3-6; amend the rules governing the List of Approved Foresters, N.J.A.C. 7:3-3; and repeal the rules governing Certified Tree Experts, N.J.A.C. 7:3-4. Any further action on those proposed amendments, new rules, and repeal would be the subject of a separate notice in the New Jersey Register.