

Notice of Hearing

The Department of Natural Resources announces that it will hold a second public hearing on a permanent rule to revise chs. NR 1 and 45, relating to minor changes to DNR property management regulations (the 2025 property management housekeeping rule), at the time and place shown below. Please also see “Rule Information” for intended modifications to the draft rule based on public comments received through Jan. 12, 2026.

Hearing Information

Date: January 30, 2026

Time: 12 p.m.

Virtual Location Link:

https://us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_9k2k9IwxSZmgZor8fjRGMQ

Dial in by phone

+1 301-715-8592,,84072285846# US

Webinar ID: 840 7228 5846

After registering, you will receive a confirmation email containing information about joining the webinar.

Rule Information: The department is holding a second public hearing on FWP-22-24 (CR 25-088) to address technical difficulties that occurred during the first hearing on Jan. 12, 2026. Based on public comments received during the initial comment period from Dec. 8, 2025, to Jan. 12, 2026, the department intends to remove SECTIONS 4 and 6 (climbing-related definitions) of the rule from the final version that will go to the Natural Resources Board for consideration. The department intends to address SECTIONS 4 and 6 of the current rule and climbing provisions during a future rulemaking effort.

Chapter NR 45, Wis. Adm. Code, encompasses department property management regulations that apply to a variety of lands, including the state park system, state forests, state wildlife areas, state fishery areas, and state natural areas. Regulations contained in ch. NR 45 address the protection of public safety, health and welfare, property usership including allowable recreational activities, resource management and conservation, and special feature preservation on department-managed lands. In addition, multiple other chapters of administrative code contain provisions that relate to department-managed properties or interact with provisions in ch. NR 45, so this rule makes minor changes in a subset of those chapters as well.

This rule is not intended to substantively affect existing policy, and would have minimal, if any, impact on visitors to department-managed lands.

Accessibility

For the hearing or visually impaired, non-English speakers, or those with other personal circumstances which might make communication at the meeting/hearing difficult, DNR will, to the maximum extent possible and with reasonable advance notice, provide aids including an interpreter, or a non-English, large-print, or recorded version of hearing documents. To access these resources, please contact the email address or phone number listed below as soon as possible.

Appearances at the Hearing and Submittal of Written Comments

The public has the opportunity to testify at the hearing. Registration will take place at the hearing by completing a Hearing Appearance form, which is available here [Hearing Appearance form](#). Pre-registration is strongly encouraged if you plan to provide spoken comments during the hearing. To pre-register, please download and complete the fillable [Hearing Appearance form](#) and send it to Meredith.Penthorn@wisconsin.gov.

Comments on the proposed rule must be received on or before Jan. 30, 2026. Written comments may be submitted by U.S. mail, E-mail, or through the internet and will have the same weight and effect as oral statements presented at the public hearing.

Written comments and any questions on the proposed rules should be submitted to:

Department of Natural Resources
Attn: Meredith Penthorn, OBS/4
P.O. Box 7921
101 S. Webster Street,
Madison, WI 53707-7921

The rule may be viewed at:

<https://dnr.wisconsin.gov/news/input/ProposedPermanent.html>

Comments may be emailed to: DNRAAdministrativeRulesComments@wisconsin.gov

The rule may be reviewed, and comments made at:

<http://docs.legis.wisconsin.gov/code/chr/hearings>.

Initial Regulatory Flexibility Analysis: No economic impacts are expected as a result of these rule changes. These changes are minor in nature and will not substantively affect existing policy. No effects on small business are anticipated as a result of these rule changes.

Agency Small Business Regulatory Coordinator:

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