

505966

VOL 0910 PAGE 135

**DECLARATION OF COVENANTS, CONDITIONS AND RESTRICTIONS  
FOR  
SADDLE CREEK FOREST**

ARTICLE 1. DEFINITIONS .....	1
1.1 "ARB" .....	1
1.2 "Act" 1 .....	1
1.3 "Additional Property" .....	1
1.4 "Adjacent Properties" .....	1
1.5 "Area of Common Responsibility" .....	2
1.6 "Articles of Incorporation" or "Articles" .....	2
1.7 "Association" .....	2
1.8 "Board of Directors" or "Board" .....	2
1.9 "Builder" .....	2
1.10 "By-Laws" .....	2
1.11 "Class "B" Control Period" .....	2
1.12 "Common Area" .....	2
1.13 "Common Expenses" .....	2
1.14 "Community-Wide Standard" .....	2
1.15 "Cost Sharing Agreement" .....	2
1.16 "Days" .....	3
1.17 "Declarant" .....	3
1.18 "Design Guidelines" .....	3
1.19 "Development Period" .....	3
1.20 "Exclusive Common Area" .....	3
1.21 "General Assessment" .....	3
1.22 "Governing Documents" .....	3
1.23 "Lot" .....	3
1.24 "Majority" .....	4
1.25 "Master Plan" .....	4
1.26 "Member" .....	4
1.27 "Mortgage" .....	4
1.28 "Mortgagee" .....	4
1.29 "Saddle Creek Forest" .....	4
1.30 "Neighborhood" .....	4
1.31 "Neighborhood Assessments" .....	4
1.32 "Neighborhood Association" .....	4
1.33 "Neighborhood Expenses" .....	4
1.34 "Owner" .....	4
1.35 "Person" .....	5
1.36 "Private Amenity" .....	5
1.37 "Properties" .....	5
1.38 "Public Records" .....	5
1.39 "Special Assessment" .....	5
1.40 "Specific Assessment" .....	5
1.41 "Supplemental Declaration" .....	5
1.42 "Voting Delegate" .....	5
1.43 "Voting Group" .....	5

ARTICLE 2. PROPERTY RIGHTS .....	5
2.1 <u>Common Area</u> .....	5
2.2 <u>Private Streets</u> .....	6
2.3 <u>Exclusive Common Area</u> .....	7
2.4 <u>No Partition</u> .....	7
2.5 <u>Condemnation</u> .....	7
ARTICLE 3. MEMBERSHIP AND VOTING RIGHTS .....	8
3.1 <u>Membership</u> .....	8
3.2 <u>Voting</u> .....	8
ARTICLE 4. RIGHTS AND OBLIGATIONS OF THE ASSOCIATION .....	8
4.1 <u>Function of Association</u> .....	8
4.2 <u>Personal Property and Real Property for Common Use</u> .....	8
4.3 <u>Enforcement</u> .....	9
4.4 <u>Implied Rights; Board Authority</u> .....	10
4.5 <u>Governmental Interests</u> .....	10
4.6 <u>Indemnification</u> .....	10
4.7 <u>Dedication of or Grant of Easement on Common Area</u> .....	11
4.8 <u>Security</u> .....	11
4.9 <u>Street Lighting Agreement</u> .....	11
4.10 <u>Relationship with Tax-Exempt Organizations</u> .....	11
4.11 <u>Powers of the Association Relating to Neighborhood Associations</u> .....	11
4.12 <u>Presence and Management of Wildlife</u> .....	12
4.13 <u>Provision of Services</u> .....	12
ARTICLE 5. MAINTENANCE .....	12
5.1 <u>Association's Responsibility</u> .....	12
5.2 <u>Owner's Responsibility</u> .....	14
5.3 <u>Neighborhood's Responsibility</u> .....	14
5.4 <u>Standard of Performance</u> .....	14
5.5 <u>Party Walls and Similar Structures</u> .....	15
5.6 <u>Cost Sharing Agreements</u> .....	15
ARTICLE 6. INSURANCE AND CASUALTY LOSSES .....	16
6.1 <u>Association Insurance</u> .....	16
6.2 <u>Owners' Insurance</u> .....	19
6.3 <u>Limitation of Liability</u> .....	19
ARTICLE 7. ANNEXATION AND WITHDRAWAL OF PROPERTY .....	19
7.1 <u>Annexation by Declarant</u> .....	19
7.2 <u>Annexation by Membership</u> .....	20
7.3 <u>Withdrawal of Property</u> .....	20
7.4 <u>Additional Covenants and Easements</u> .....	20
7.5 <u>Amendment</u> .....	20
ARTICLE 8. ASSESSMENTS .....	20
8.1 <u>Creation of Assessments</u> .....	20
8.2 <u>Special Assessments</u> .....	21
8.3 <u>Specific Assessments</u> .....	22
8.4 <u>Remedies for Non-Payment of Assessments</u> .....	22

8.5	<u>Date of Commencement of Assessments</u> .....	23
8.6	<u>Failure to Assess</u> .....	23
8.7	<u>Exempt Property</u> .....	24
8.8	<u>Default Interest Rate; NSF Checks; Late Fees</u> .....	24
ARTICLE 9. ARCHITECTURAL STANDARDS .....		24
9.1	<u>General</u> .....	24
9.2	<u>Architectural Review</u> .....	25
9.3	<u>Guidelines and Procedures</u> .....	25
9.4	<u>Specific Guidelines and Restrictions</u> .....	26
9.5	<u>Completion of Construction; Occupancy of Unfinished Lots</u> .....	28
9.6	<u>No Waiver of Future Approvals</u> .....	28
9.7	<u>Variance</u> .....	29
9.8	<u>Limitation of Liability</u> .....	29
9.9	<u>Enforcement</u> .....	29
ARTICLE 10. USE RESTRICTIONS .....		30
10.1	<u>General</u> .....	30
10.2	<u>Rules and Regulations</u> .....	30
10.3	<u>Residential Use</u> .....	30
10.4	<u>Vehicles</u> .....	31
10.5	<u>Leasing</u> .....	31
10.6	<u>Occupants Bound</u> .....	32
10.7	<u>Animals and Pets</u> .....	32
10.8	<u>Nuisance</u> .....	32
10.9	<u>Streams</u> .....	33
10.10	<u>Drainage and Grading</u> .....	33
10.11	<u>Sight Distance at Intersections</u> .....	33
10.12	<u>Storage of Materials, Garbage, Dumping, etc</u> .....	33
10.13	<u>Subdivision of Lot</u> .....	34
10.14	<u>Guns</u> .....	34
10.15	<u>Combustible Liquid</u> .....	34
10.16	<u>Incidental Bodies of Water</u> .....	34
10.17	<u>Irrigation Systems and Wells</u> .....	34
ARTICLE 11. EASEMENTS .....		34
11.1	<u>Easements of Encroachment</u> .....	34
11.2	<u>Easements for Utilities, etc</u> .....	35
11.3	<u>Easement for Slope Control, Drainage and Waterway Maintenance</u> .....	35
11.4	<u>Easements to Serve Additional Property</u> .....	36
11.5	<u>Easement for Entry</u> .....	36
11.6	<u>Easements for Maintenance and Enforcement</u> .....	36
11.7	<u>Easements for Lake and Pond Maintenance and Flood Water</u> .....	36
11.8	<u>Lateral Support</u> .....	37
11.9	<u>Easements for Private Amenities</u> .....	37
11.10	<u>Easement for Special Events</u> .....	38
11.11	<u>Easement for Walking Trail Access</u> .....	38
11.12	<u>Rights to Stormwater Runoff, Effluent and Water Reclamation</u> .....	38
11.13	<u>Liability for Use of Easements</u> .....	38
ARTICLE 12. MORTGAGEE PROVISIONS .....		39
12.1	<u>Notices of Action</u> .....	39

12.2	<u>No Priority</u> .....	39
12.3	<u>Notice to Association</u> .....	39
12.4	<u>Failure of Mortgagee to Respond</u> .....	39
12.5	<u>Construction</u> .....	39
ARTICLE 13. DECLARANT'S RIGHTS .....		39
13.1	<u>Transfer or Assignment</u> .....	39
13.2	<u>Development and Sales</u> .....	40
13.3	<u>Improvements to Common Areas</u> .....	40
13.4	<u>Additional Covenants</u> .....	40
13.5	<u>Amendments</u> .....	40
ARTICLE 14. PRIVATE AMENITIES .....		41
14.1	<u>General</u> .....	41
14.2	<u>Conveyance of Private Amenities</u> .....	41
14.3	<u>View Impairment</u> .....	41
14.4	<u>Cost Sharing Agreements</u> .....	41
14.5	<u>Architectural Control</u> .....	41
14.6	<u>Use Restrictions</u> .....	42
14.7	<u>Limitations on Amendments</u> .....	42
14.8	<u>Jurisdiction and Cooperation</u> .....	42
ARTICLE 15. GENERAL PROVISIONS .....		42
15.1	<u>Duration</u> .....	42
15.2	<u>Amendment</u> .....	42
15.3	<u>Severability</u> .....	43
15.4	<u>Dispute Resolution</u> .....	43
15.5	<u>Non-Merger</u> .....	44
15.6	<u>Grants</u> .....	44
15.7	<u>Cumulative Effect; Conflict</u> .....	44
15.8	<u>Use of the Term "Saddle Creek Forest"</u> .....	44
15.9	<u>Compliance</u> .....	44
15.10	<u>Exhibits</u> .....	44

#### TABLE OF EXHIBITS

<u>Subject Matter</u>	<u>Exhibit</u>
Land Initially Submitted to this Declaration	"A"
Land Subject to Annexation	"B"

## DECLARATION OF COVENANTS, CONDITIONS AND RESTRICTIONS

FOR

## SADDLE CREEK FOREST

THIS DECLARATION OF COVENANTS, CONDITIONS AND RESTRICTIONS is made as of the date on the signature page hereof by Bluegreen Southwest One, L.P., a Delaware limited partnership, duly authorized to do business in the State of Texas, acting through its general partner, Bluegreen Southwest Land, Inc., a Delaware corporation, authorized to do business in the State of Texas (the "Declarant").

Declarant is the owner of the real property described in **Exhibit "A"**, attached and incorporated by reference, or, if Declarant is not the owner, such owner has consented to this Declaration. This Declaration imposes upon the Properties mutually beneficial restrictions under a general plan of improvement for the benefit of the Owners of each portion of the Properties and establishes a flexible and reasonable procedure for the overall development, administration, maintenance and preservation of the Properties. In furtherance of such plan, this Declaration provides for the Saddle Creek Forest Property Owners Association to own, operate and maintain Common Areas and to administer and enforce the provisions of this Declaration, the By-Laws, and the Design Guidelines. (Capitalized terms are defined in Article 1 below.)

Declarant hereby declares that all of the property described in Exhibit "A" and any Additional Property subjected to this Declaration by Supplemental Declaration (as defined in Article 1 below) shall be held, sold, used and conveyed subject to the following easements, restrictions, covenants and conditions, which shall run with the title to the real property subjected to this Declaration. This Declaration shall be binding upon all parties having any right, title or interest in any portion of the Properties, their heirs, successors, successors-in-title and assigns, and shall inure to the benefit of each owner of any portion of the Properties.

**Article 1.**  
**DEFINITIONS**

The terms in this Declaration and the exhibits to this Declaration shall generally be given their natural, commonly accepted definitions except as otherwise specified. Capitalized terms shall be defined as set forth below.

- 1.1 "**ARB**": The Architectural Review Board, as described in Section 9.2.
- 1.2 "**Act**": The Texas Residential Property Owners Protection Act, Title 11, Chapter 209 of the Texas Property Code, as such act may be amended.
- 1.3 "**Additional Property**": All of that certain real property which is more particularly described on **Exhibit "B"**, attached and incorporated herein by this reference, and which real property is subject to annexation to the terms of this Declaration in accordance with Article 7.
- 1.4 "**Adjacent Properties**": Any residential, nonresidential, or recreational areas, including, without limitation, single family residential developments, assisted living facilities, retail, office, commercial, or institutional areas and Private Amenities, which are located adjacent to, in the vicinity of, or within the Properties; which are owned and operated, in whole or in part, by Persons other than the

Association; which are not subject to this Declaration; and which are neither Lots nor Common Area as defined in this Declaration.

1.5 "Area of Common Responsibility": The Common Area, together with those areas, if any, for which the Association has or assumes responsibility pursuant to the terms of this Declaration, any Supplemental Declaration or other applicable covenant, contract, or agreement. The Area of Common Responsibility shall include any real property and improvements which are designated as areas to be maintained by the Association on a recorded subdivision plat for any portion of the Properties.

1.6 "Articles of Incorporation" or "Articles": The Articles of Incorporation of Saddle Creek Forest Property Owners Association, as filed with the Secretary of State of the State of Texas.

1.7 "Association": Saddle Creek Forest Property Owners Association, a Texas nonprofit corporation, its successors or assigns.

1.8 "Board of Directors" or "Board": The body responsible for administration of the Association, selected as provided in the By-Laws and generally serving the same role as the board of directors under Texas corporate law.

1.9 "Builder": Any Person who purchases one (1) or more Lots for the purpose of constructing improvements for later sale to consumers or purchases one (1) or more parcels of land within the Properties for further subdivision, development, and/or resale in the ordinary course of such Person's business. Any Person occupying or leasing a Lot for residential purposes shall cease to be considered a Builder with respect to such Lot immediately upon occupancy of the Lot for residential purposes, notwithstanding that such Person originally purchased the Lot for the purpose of constructing improvements for later sale to consumers.

1.10 "By-Laws": The By-Laws of Saddle Creek Forest Property Owners Association.

1.11 "Class "B" Control Period": The period of time during which the Class "B" Member is entitled to appoint a Majority of the Members of the Board of Directors as provided in the By-Laws.

1.12 "Common Area": All real and personal property, including easements and licenses, which the Association owns, leases or holds possessory or use rights in for the common use and enjoyment of the Owners. The term also shall include the Exclusive Common Area, as defined below.

1.13 "Common Expenses": The actual and estimated expenses incurred, or anticipated to be incurred, by the Association for the general benefit of all Owners, including any reasonable reserve, as the Board may find necessary and appropriate pursuant to the Governing Documents.

1.14 "Community-Wide Standard": The standard of conduct, maintenance, or other activity generally prevailing throughout the Properties. Such standard shall initially be established by the Declarant and may be more specifically determined by the Board of Directors and the ARB.

1.15 "Cost Sharing Agreement": Any agreement, contract or covenant between the Association and an owner or operator of property adjacent to, in the vicinity of, or within the Properties, including any Private Amenity, for the allocation of expenses that benefit both the Association and the owner or operator of such property.

1.16 "Days": Calendar days; provided, however, if the time period by which any action required hereunder must be performed expires on a Saturday, Sunday or legal holiday, then such time period shall be automatically extended to the close of business on the next regular business day.

1.17 "Declarant": Bluegreen Southwest One, L.P., a Delaware limited partnership, or any successor, successor-in-title, or assign who takes title to any portion of the property described on Exhibits "A" or "B" for the purpose of development and/or sale and who is designated as the Declarant in a recorded instrument executed by the immediately preceding Declarant; provided, however, there shall be only one Person entitled to exercise the rights and powers of the "Declarant" hereunder at any one time.

1.18 "Design Guidelines": The design and construction guidelines and application and review procedures applicable to the Properties promulgated and administered pursuant to Article 9.

1.19 "Development Period": The period of time during which the Declarant owns any property which is subject to this Declaration, or any Private Amenity, or has the unilateral right to subject Additional Property to this Declaration pursuant to Section 7.1.

The Declarant may, but shall not be obligated to, unilaterally relinquish its rights under this Declaration and terminate the Development Period by recording a written instrument in the Public records.

1.20 "Exclusive Common Area": A portion of the Common Area intended for the exclusive use or primary benefit of one (1) or more, but less than all, Neighborhoods or Lots, as more particularly described in Article 2.

1.21 "General Assessment": The Assessment levied on all Lots subject to assessment under Article 8 to fund Common Expenses for the general benefit of all Lots, as more particularly described in Section 8.1 and the By-Laws.

1.22 "Governing Documents": The Declaration, By-Laws, Articles of Incorporation, all Supplemental Declarations, the Design Guidelines and rules of the Association, all Cost Sharing Agreements and all additional covenants governing any portion of the Properties or any of the above, as each may be supplemented and amended from time to time.

1.23 "Lot": A portion of the Properties, whether improved or unimproved, which may be independently owned and conveyed and which is intended for development, use, and occupancy as an attached or detached residence for a single family. The term shall refer to the land which is part of the Lot as well as any improvements thereon. The term shall include within its meaning, by way of illustration but not limitation, single-family detached houses on separately platted lots, as well as vacant land intended for development as such, but shall not include Common Area, common property owned by any Neighborhood Association, or property dedicated to the public. In the case of a building within a condominium or other structure containing multiple dwellings, each dwelling shall be deemed to be a separate Lot.

In the case of a parcel of vacant land or land on which improvements are under construction, the parcel shall be deemed to be a single Lot until such time as a subdivision plat or condominium plat is filed of record on all or a portion of the parcel. Thereafter, the portion encompassed by such plat shall contain the number of Lots determined as set forth in the preceding paragraph and any portion not encompassed by such plat shall continue to be treated in accordance with this paragraph.



1.24 "Majority": Those votes, Owners, Members, or other group, as the context may indicate, totaling more than fifty percent (50%) of the total eligible number.

1.25 "Master Plan": The land use plan or development plan for Saddle Creek Forest prepared by Pro-Tech Engineering Group Incorporated, 100 E. San Antonio Street, Suite 100, San Marcos, Texas 78666, as such plan may be amended from time to time, which includes the property described on Exhibit "A" and all or a portion of the property described on Exhibit "B" that Declarant may from time to time anticipate subjecting to this Declaration. Inclusion of property on the Master Plan shall not, under any circumstances, obligate Declarant to subject such property to this Declaration, nor shall the exclusion of property described on Exhibit "B" from the Master Plan bar its later annexation in accordance with Article 7.

1.26 "Member": A Person entitled and subject to membership in the Association pursuant to Section 3.1 and the By-Laws.

1.27 "Mortgage": A mortgage, a deed of trust, a deed to secure debt, or any other form of security instrument affecting title to any Lot.

1.28 "Mortgagee": A beneficiary or holder of a Mortgage.

1.29 "Saddle Creek Forest": That certain planned community located in Waller or Grimes County, Texas which is commonly known and referred to as Saddle Creek Forest.

1.30 "Neighborhood": A separately developed area within the Properties, whether or not governed by a Neighborhood Association (as defined below), in which the Owners of Lots may have common interests other than those common to all Members of the Association. For example, and by way of illustration and not limitation, each single-family attached or detached housing development may constitute a separate Neighborhood, or a Neighborhood may be comprised of more than one housing type with other features in common.

Where the context permits or requires, the term Neighborhood shall also refer to the Neighborhood Committee (established in accordance with the By-Laws), if any, or Neighborhood Association (as defined below), if any, having concurrent jurisdiction over the property within the Neighborhood. Neighborhood boundaries may be established and modified as provided in the By-Laws.

1.31 "Neighborhood Assessments": Assessments levied against the Lots in a particular Neighborhood or Neighborhoods to fund Neighborhood Expenses, as described in Section 8.1 and the By-Laws.

1.32 "Neighborhood Association": Any owners association having concurrent jurisdiction with the Association over any Neighborhood.

1.33 "Neighborhood Expenses": The actual and estimated expenses incurred or anticipated to be incurred by the Association for the benefit of Owners of Lots within a particular Neighborhood or Neighborhoods, which may include a reasonable reserve for capital repairs and replacements, as the Board may specifically authorize from time to time and as may be authorized herein or in Supplemental Declarations applicable to such Neighborhood(s).

1.34 "Owner": One (1) or more Persons who hold the record title to any Lot, including the Declarant and any Builder but excluding in all cases any party holding an interest merely as security for the performance of an obligation. If a Lot is sold under a recorded land sales contract, and the contract

specifically so provides, the purchaser (rather than the fee owner) will be considered the Owner. If a Lot is owned by more than one (1) Person, all such Persons shall be jointly and severally obligated to perform the responsibilities of such Owner.

1.35 "Person": A natural person, a corporation, a partnership, a limited liability company, a fiduciary acting on behalf of another person or any other legal entity.

1.36 "Private Amenity": Certain real property and any improvements and facilities thereon located adjacent to, in the vicinity of, or within the Properties, designated by the Declarant and which are owned and operated, in whole or in part, by Persons other than the Association for recreational or other purpose. The use of the term "Private Amenity" shall not be construed to imply or require a private club. Private Amenities may be operated on a daily fee, use fee, public, or private basis or otherwise, and may include, any recreational amenities so located and all related and supporting facilities and improvements. Declarant reserves the right to designate additional Private Amenities in its sole discretion.

1.37 "Properties": The real property described on Exhibit "A", as such exhibit may be amended or supplemented from time to time to reflect any additions or removal of property in accordance with Article 7.

1.38 "Public Records": The Official Public Records of Waller or Grimes County, Texas.

1.39 "Special Assessment": Assessments levied in accordance with Section 8.2.

1.40 "Specific Assessment": Assessments levied in accordance with Section 8.3.

1.41 "Supplemental Declaration": An instrument filed in the Public Records which subjects additional property to this Declaration, designates Neighborhoods, and/or imposes, expressly or by reference, additional restrictions and obligations on the land described in such instrument. The term shall also refer to a recorded instrument which designates Voting Groups, any declaration of covenants, conditions and restrictions, and any declaration of condominium.

1.42 "Voting Delegate": Any representative selected by the Class "A" Members within each Neighborhood to be responsible for casting all Class "A" votes attributable to Lots in the Neighborhood on matters requiring a vote of the membership (except as otherwise specifically provided in this Declaration and in the By-Laws). The term "Voting Delegate" shall also refer to any alternate Voting Delegate acting in the absence of a Voting Delegate and any Owner personally casting the vote for his or her Lot pursuant to the By-Laws.

1.43 "Voting Group": One (1) or more Voting Delegates who vote on a common slate for election of directors to the Board of Directors of the Association, as more particularly described in the By-Laws or, if the context so indicates, the group of Class "A" Members whose Lots are represented thereby.

## **Article 2.**

### **PROPERTY RIGHTS**

2.1 Common Area. Every Owner shall have a right and nonexclusive easement of use, access, and enjoyment in and to the Common Area, which is appurtenant to and shall pass with the title to each Lot, subject to:

- (a) This Declaration and all Governing Documents;

(b) Any restrictions or limitations contained in any deed conveying such property to the Association;

(c) The right of the Board to adopt, amend and repeal rules regulating the use and enjoyment of the Common Area, including rules limiting the number of guests who may use the Common Area;

(d) The right of the Board to suspend the right of an Owner to use recreational facilities within the Common Area pursuant to Section 4.3;

(e) The right of the Association, acting through the Board, to dedicate or transfer all or any part of the Common Area, subject to such approval requirements as may be set forth in this Declaration;

(f) The right of the Board to impose reasonable requirements and charge reasonable admission or other use fees for the use of any facility situated upon the Common Area;

(g) The right of the Board and the Declarant to permit use of any facilities situated on the Common Area by persons other than Owners, their families, lessees and guests upon payment of reasonable use fees, if any, established by the Board;

(h) The right of the Association, acting through the Board, to mortgage, pledge, or hypothecate any or all of its real or personal property as security for money borrowed or debts incurred;

(i) The rights of certain Owners to the exclusive use of those portions of the Common Area designated "Exclusive Common Areas," as more particularly described in Section 2.3;

(j) The right of the Declarant to conduct activities within the Common Area, such as tournaments, charitable events, and promotional events and to restrict Owners from using the Common Area during such activities, provided such activities shall be conducted in a manner to minimize (to the extent reasonably possible) any substantial interference with the Owners' use and enjoyment of the Common Area and shall not exceed seven (7) consecutive Days; and

(k) The right of the Association to rent, lease or reserve any portion of the Common Area to any Owner for the exclusive use of such Owner or Owner's respective lessees, invitees, and guests upon such conditions as may be established by the Board.

Any Owner may extend his or her right of use and enjoyment to the Members of his or her family, lessees, and social invitees, as applicable, subject to reasonable regulation by the Board. An Owner who leases his or her Lot shall be deemed to have assigned all such rights appurtenant to the leased Lot to the lessee of such Lot; provided, however, the Owner shall remain responsible for payment of all assessments and other charges.

**2.2 Private Streets.** Every Owner shall have a right and nonexclusive easement of use, access, and enjoyment in and to, over and across any private streets and roads within the Properties ("Private Streets"), whether or not such Private Streets are Common Area, for the purpose of ingress and egress to public rights-of-way. The rights and nonexclusive easements granted herein are appurtenant to the title to each Lot, subject to:

(a) This Declaration and all other Governing Documents;

(b) The right of the Declarant, so long as the Declarant owns the Private Streets, to adopt, amend and repeal rules regulating the use and enjoyment of the Private Streets, provided that the

Declarant shall not by the adoption of any rule or regulation bar access of the Owners across the Private Streets;

(c) The right of the Declarant to dedicate all or any part of Private Streets;

(d) The right of the Declarant to mortgage, pledge, or hypothecate any or all of the Private Streets as security for money borrowed or debts incurred, provided that the Declarant shall not subject the Private Streets to any security instrument without obtaining the agreement of the lender to subordinate its interest in the Private Streets to the easements for the Owners contained in this Section; and

(e) The rights of the Declarant to maintain the Private Streets.

Any Owner may extend his or her right of use and enjoyment to the members of his or her family, lessees, and social invitees, as applicable.

2.3 Exclusive Common Area. Subject to any restrictions or limitations in the deed conveying property to the Association, certain portions of the Common Area may be designated as Exclusive Common Area and reserved for the exclusive use or primary benefit of Owners and occupants of specified Lots or Neighborhoods. By way of illustration and not limitation, Exclusive Common Areas may include entry features, recreational facilities, roads, landscaped medians and cul-de-sacs, ponds, lakes and other portions of the Common Area within a particular Neighborhood or Neighborhoods. All costs associated with maintenance, repair, replacement, and insurance of an Exclusive Common Area shall be assessed against the Owners of Lots to which the Exclusive Common Areas are assigned either as a Neighborhood Assessment or as a Specific Assessment, as applicable.

Initially, any Exclusive Common Area shall be designated as such, and the exclusive use thereof shall be assigned, in the deed by which the Common Area is conveyed to the Association or in this Declaration or any Supplemental Declaration and/or on the subdivision plat relating to such Common Area; provided, however, any such assignment shall not preclude the Declarant from later assigning use of the same Exclusive Common Area to additional Lots and/or Neighborhoods during the Development Period. Thereafter, a portion of the Common Area may be assigned as Exclusive Common Area of particular Lots or a particular Neighborhood or Neighborhoods and Exclusive Common Area may be reassigned upon approval of the Board and the vote of Voting Delegates representing a Majority of the total Class "A" votes in the Association, including, if applicable, a Majority of the Class "A" votes within the Neighborhood(s) to which the Exclusive Common Area is assigned, if previously assigned, and within the Neighborhood(s) to which the Exclusive Common Area is to be assigned or reassigned.

The Association may, upon approval of a Majority of the Class "A" votes within the Neighborhood(s) to which any Exclusive Common Area is assigned, permit Owners of Lots in other Neighborhoods to use all or a portion of such Exclusive Common Area upon payment of reasonable user fees, which fees shall be used to offset the Neighborhood Expenses or Specific Assessments attributable to such Exclusive Common Area.

2.4 No Partition. Except as permitted in this Declaration, there shall be no judicial partition of the Common Area. No Person shall seek any judicial partition unless the portion of the Common Area which is the subject of such partition action has been removed from the provisions of this Declaration. This Section shall not prohibit the Board from acquiring and disposing of tangible personal property or from acquiring and disposing of real property which may or may not be subject to this Declaration.

2.5 Condemnation. The Association shall be the sole representative with respect to condemnation proceedings concerning Common Area and shall act as attorney in fact for all Owners in

such matters. If any part of the Common Area shall be taken (or conveyed in lieu of and under threat of condemnation by the Board acting on the written direction of at least sixty-seven percent (67%) of the total Class "A" votes in the Association, and, during the Development Period, the written consent of the Declarant) by any authority having the power of condemnation or eminent domain, each Owner shall be entitled to written notice of such taking or conveyance prior to disbursement of any condemnation award or proceeds from such conveyance. Such award or proceeds shall be payable to the Association.

If the taking or conveyance involves a portion of the Common Area on which improvements have been constructed, the Association shall restore or replace such improvements on the remaining land included in the Common Area to the extent available, unless within sixty (60) Days after such taking the Declarant, during the Development Period, and at least sixty-seven percent (67%) of the total Class "A" vote of the Association shall otherwise agree. Any such construction shall be in accordance with plans approved by the Board and the ARB. The provisions of Section 6.1(c) regarding funds for the repair of damage or destruction shall apply.

If the taking or conveyance does not involve any improvements on the Common Area, or if a decision is made not to repair or restore, or if net funds remain after any such restoration or replacement is complete, then such award or net funds shall be disbursed to the Association and used for such purposes as the Board shall determine.

### Article 3.

#### MEMBERSHIP AND VOTING RIGHTS

3.1 Membership. Every Owner of a Lot shall be a Member of the Association. There shall be only one (1) membership per Lot. If a Lot is owned by more than one (1) Person, all Persons shall share the privileges of such membership, subject to reasonable Board regulation and the restrictions on voting set forth in the By-Laws. The membership rights of any Member which is not a natural person may be exercised by any officer, director, member, manager, partner or trustee, or by any individual designated from time to time by the Owner in a written instrument delivered to the secretary of the Association. The Association shall have Class "A" and Class "B" Memberships, and any such other classes of membership as further set forth in the By-Laws.

3.2 Voting. Members shall be entitled to vote in accordance with the procedures set forth in the By-Laws.

### Article 4.

#### RIGHTS AND OBLIGATIONS OF THE ASSOCIATION

4.1 Function of Association. The Association shall be the entity responsible for management, maintenance, operation and control of the Area of Common Responsibility and all improvements thereon. The Association shall be the primary entity responsible for enforcement of this Declaration and such reasonable rules regulating use of the Properties as the Board may adopt pursuant to Article 10. The Association shall also be responsible for administering and enforcing the architectural standards and controls set forth in this Declaration and in the Design Guidelines. The Association shall perform its functions in accordance with the Governing Documents and the laws of the State of Texas.

4.2 Personal Property and Real Property for Common Use. The Association, through action of its Board, may acquire, hold, and dispose of tangible and intangible personal property and real property. The Declarant and its designees, with the Declarant's prior written consent, may convey to the Association improved or unimproved real estate, or interests in real estate, located within the property described in Exhibits "A" or "B", personal property and leasehold and other property interests. Such

property shall be accepted by the Association and thereafter shall be maintained by the Association at its expense for the benefit of its Members, subject to any restrictions set forth in the deed or other instrument transferring such property to the Association. Declarant shall not be required to make any improvements or repairs whatsoever to property to be conveyed and accepted pursuant to this Section including, without limitation, dredging or otherwise removing silt from any lake, pond or other body of water that may be conveyed. Upon written request of Declarant, the Association shall reconvey to Declarant any unimproved portions of the Properties originally conveyed by Declarant to the Association for no consideration, to the extent conveyed by Declarant in error or needed by Declarant to make adjustments in property lines.

4.3 Enforcement. The Board, or any committee established by the Board, may impose sanctions for violation of the Governing Documents after compliance with the notice and hearing procedures set forth in Section 3.24 of the By-Laws. Such sanctions may include, without limitation:

(a) imposing monetary fines which shall constitute a lien upon the Lot of the violator. (In the event that any occupant, guest or invitee of a Lot violates the Governing Documents and a fine is imposed, the fine shall first be assessed against the occupant; provided, however, if the fine is not paid by the occupant within the time period set by the Board, the Owner shall pay the fine upon notice from the Board.);

(b) filing liens in the Public Records for nonpayment of any assessments or fees;

(c) filing notices of violations in the Public Records providing record notice of any violation of the Governing Documents;

(d) suspending an Owner's right to vote;

(e) suspending any Person's right to use any recreational facilities within the Common Area; provided, however, nothing herein shall authorize the Board to limit ingress or egress to or from a Lot;

(f) levying Specific Assessments to cover costs incurred in bringing a Lot into compliance in accordance with Section 8.3(b);

(g) suspending any services provided by the Association to an Owner or the Owner's Lot if the Owner is more than thirty (30) Days delinquent in paying any assessment or other charge owed to the Association; and

(h) filing suit to enforce any of the above sanctions; provided, however, compliance with the notice and hearing procedures set forth in Section 3.24 of the By-Laws is not required prior to filing suit (i) to collect a General, Neighborhood or Special Assessment, (ii) to foreclose the Association's lien for assessments set forth in Article 8 of this Declaration, (iii) to obtain a temporary restraining order or temporary injunctive relief, or (iv) that includes foreclosure as a cause of action.

In the event that any occupant, guest or invitee of a Lot violates the Governing Documents, the Board or any committee established by the Board, with the Board's approval, may sanction such occupant, guest or invitee and/or the Owner of the Lot that the violator is occupying or visiting.

In addition, the Board, or the covenants committee if established, may elect to enforce any provision of the Governing Documents by entering the Lot and exercising self-help (specifically including, but not limited to, the towing of vehicles that are in violation of parking rules, the removal of pets that are in violation of pet rules or the correction of any maintenance, construction or other violation

of the Governing Documents) or by suit at law or in equity to enjoin any violation or to foreclose a lien or both without the necessity of compliance with the procedures set forth in the By-Laws.

All remedies set forth in this Declaration and the By-Laws shall be cumulative of any remedies available at law or in equity. In any action to enforce the provisions of the Governing Documents, if the Association prevails, it shall be entitled to recover all costs, including, without limitation, attorneys' fees and court costs, reasonably incurred in such action.

The Association shall not be obligated to take action to enforce any covenant, restriction, or rule which the Board in the exercise of its business judgment determines is, or is likely to be construed as, inconsistent with applicable law, or in any case in which the Board reasonably determines that the Association's position is not strong enough to justify taking enforcement action. Any such determination shall not be construed a waiver of the right of the Association to enforce such provision under any circumstances or prevent the Association from enforcing any other covenant, restriction or rule.

The Association, by contract or other agreement, may enforce county, city, state and federal ordinances, if applicable, and permit local and other governments to enforce ordinances on the Properties for the benefit of the Association and its Members.

4.4 Implied Rights; Board Authority. The Association may exercise any right or privilege given to it expressly by this Declaration or the By-Laws, or reasonably implied from or reasonably necessary to effectuate any such right or privilege. Except as otherwise specifically provided in this Declaration, the By-Laws, the Articles, or by law, all rights and powers of the Association may be exercised by the Board without a vote of the membership.

4.5 Governmental Interests. During the Development Period, the Declarant may designate sites within the Properties for public or quasi-public facilities. No membership approval shall be required for such designation. The sites may include Common Area, in which case the Association shall take whatever action is required with respect to such site to permit such use, including conveyance of the site, if so directed by Declarant. The sites may include other property not owned by Declarant provided the owner of such property consents.

4.6 Indemnification. The Association shall indemnify every officer, director, ARB member and committee member against all damages, liability, and expenses, including attorneys' fees, reasonably incurred in connection with any action, suit, or other proceeding (including settlement of any suit or proceeding, if approved by the then Board of Directors) to which he or she may be a party by reason of being or having been an officer, director, ARB member or committee member, except that such obligation to indemnify shall be limited to those actions for which liability is limited under this Section, the Articles of Incorporation and Texas law.

The officers, directors, and ARB and other committee members shall not be liable for any mistake of judgment, negligent or otherwise, except for their own individual willful misfeasance, malfeasance, misconduct, or bad faith. The officers, directors and ARB and other committee members shall have no personal liability with respect to any contract or other commitment made or action taken in good faith on behalf of the Association (except to the extent that such officers, directors or ARB or other committee members may also be Members of the Association). The Association shall indemnify and forever hold each such officer, director and ARB and other committee member harmless from any and all liability to others on account of any such contract, commitment or action. This right to indemnification shall not be exclusive of any other rights to which any present or former officer, director, or ARB or other committee member may be entitled. The Association shall, as a Common Expense, maintain adequate

general liability and officers' and directors' liability insurance to fund this obligation, if such insurance is reasonably available.

4.7 Dedication of or Grant of Easement on Common Area. The Association may dedicate portions of the Common Area to Waller or Grimes County, Texas, or to any other local, state, or federal governmental or quasi-governmental entity or private utility provider.

4.8 Security. Each Owner and occupant of a Lot and their respective lessees, invitees, licensees, and guests shall be responsible for their own personal safety and security on their Lot and on the Properties. The Association may, but shall not be obligated to, maintain or support certain activities within the Properties designed to make the Properties safer than they otherwise might be. Neither the Association, the original Declarant, nor any successor Declarant shall in any way be considered insurers or guarantors of security within the Properties, nor shall any of them be held liable for any loss or damage by reason of failure to provide adequate security or ineffectiveness of security measures undertaken. No representation or warranty is made that any security system or measure, including any mechanism or system for limiting access to the Properties, cannot be compromised or circumvented, nor that any such systems or security measures undertaken will in all cases prevent loss or provide the detection or protection for which the system is designed or intended. Each Owner acknowledges, understands and covenants to inform its tenants and all occupants of its Lot that the Association, its Board of Directors and committees, Declarant, and any successor Declarant are not insurers or guarantors of security within the Properties, and that each Person using the Properties assumes all risks of personal injury and loss or damage to property, including Lots and the contents of Lots, resulting from acts of third parties.

4.9 Street Lighting Agreement. Declarant reserves the right to subject the Properties to a contract with an electric utility company for the installation of underground electric cables and/or the installation of street lighting, either or both which may require an initial payment and/or a continuing monthly payment to an electric utility company by each Owner or the Association. All street lights shall be installed or aimed so as to minimize a disabling glare to drivers or pedestrians or a nuisance glare to neighboring properties.

4.10 Relationship with Tax-Exempt Organizations. The Declarant or the Association may create, enter into agreements or contracts with, or grant exclusive and/or non-exclusive easements over the Common Area to non-profit, tax-exempt organizations for the benefit of the Properties. The Association may contribute money, real or personal property or services to any such entity. Any such contribution shall be a Common Expense and included as a line item in the Association's annual budget. For the purposes of this Section, a "tax-exempt organization" shall mean an entity which is exempt from federal income taxes under the Internal Revenue Code, including but not limited to, Sections 501(c)(3) or 501(c)(4) thereof.

4.11 Powers of the Association Relating to Neighborhood Associations. The Association may veto any action taken or authorized by any Neighborhood Association which the Board reasonably determines to be adverse to the interests of the Association or its Members or inconsistent with the Community-Wide Standard. The Association also may require specific action to be taken by any Neighborhood Association to fulfill its obligations and responsibilities under any Governing Document. For example, the Association may require that specific maintenance or repairs or aesthetic changes be performed by the Neighborhood Association. If the Neighborhood Association fails to comply with such requirements within a reasonable time as specified in writing by the Association, the Association may effect such action on behalf of the Neighborhood Association and assess the Lots within such Neighborhood for any expenses incurred by the Association in taking such action. Such assessments may also be collected as a Specific Assessment.



4.12 Presence and Management of Wildlife. Each Owner and occupant, and each tenant, guest and invitee of any Owner or occupant acknowledges that the Properties include and/or are located adjacent to and in the vicinity of wetlands, bodies of water and other natural areas. Such areas may contain wildlife. Neither the Association, the Board, the original Declarant, nor any successor Declarant shall be liable or responsible for any personal injury, illness or any other loss or damage caused by the presence of such wildlife on the Properties. Each Owner and occupant of a Lot and each tenant, guest, and invitee of any Owner or occupant shall assume all risk of personal injury, illness, or other loss or damage arising from the presence of such wildlife and further acknowledges that the Association, the Board, the original Declarant or any successor Declarant have made no representations or warranties, nor has any Owner or occupant, or any tenant, guest, or invitee of any Owner or occupant relied upon any representations or warranties, expressed or implied, relative to the presence of such wildlife.

The Declarant, acting in its sole and absolute discretion, retains the right, but not the obligation, to engage in wildlife and fishery management plans and practices on the Properties to the extent that such practices are permitted by applicable state and federal law. For the purpose of illustration and not limitation, and notwithstanding the general prohibition against the use of firearms in Section 10.14, this includes the right to manage and control any populations of wildlife through a variety of techniques, including organized hunting, shooting and trapping. The Declarant hereby reserves the right to assign these management rights to the Association.

4.13 Provision of Services. The Association may provide services and facilities for the Members of the Association and their guests, lessees and invitees. The Association shall be authorized to enter into contracts or other similar agreements with other entities, including Declarant, to provide such services and facilities. The costs of services and facilities provided by the Association may be funded by the Association as a Common Expense or a Neighborhood Expense, depending on whether the service or facility is provided to all Lots or only the Lots within a specified Neighborhood. In addition, the Board shall be authorized to charge use and consumption fees for services and facilities through Specific Assessments or by requiring payment at the time the service or facility is provided. As an alternative, the Association may arrange for the costs of the services and facilities to be billed directly to Owners by the provider(s) of such services and facilities. By way of example, some services and facilities which may be provided include garbage collection, cable, digital, satellite or similar television service, internet, intranet, and other computer related services, security and similar services and facilities. The Board, without the consent of the Class "A" Members of the Association, shall be permitted to modify or cancel existing services or facilities provided, if any, or to provide additional services and facilities. Nothing contained herein can be relied upon as a representation as to the services and facilities, if any, which will be provided by the Association.

## **Article 5.**

### **MAINTENANCE**

#### **5.1 Association's Responsibility.**

(a) The Association shall maintain and keep in good condition, order and repair the Area of Common Responsibility, which shall include, but need not be limited to:

- (i) Common Area;
- (ii) all landscaping and other flora, parks, lakes, ponds, structures, and improvements, including any entry features, private streets, bike and pedestrian pathways/trails, situated upon the Common Area;

- (iii) all furnishings, equipment and other personal property of the Association;
- (iv) any street trees, landscaping and other flora, buffers (unless such areas are maintained by the owner of a Private Amenity), parks, bike and pedestrian pathways/trails, structures and improvements within public rights-of-way within or abutting the Properties or upon such other public land adjacent to the Properties as deemed necessary in the discretion of the Board;
- (v) such portions of any additional property included within the Area of Common Responsibility as may be dictated by this Declaration, any Supplemental Declaration, any Cost Sharing Agreement, or any contract or agreement for maintenance thereof entered into by the Association;
- (vi) all streams and/or wetlands located within the Properties which serve as part of the drainage and storm water retention system for the Properties, including any retaining walls, bulkheads or dams (earthen or otherwise) retaining water therein, and any fountains, lighting, pumps, conduits, and similar equipment installed therein or used in connection therewith unless such facilities are located within a Private Amenity and are maintained by the owner of the Private Amenity; and
- (vii) any property and facilities owned by the Declarant and made available, on a temporary or permanent basis, for the primary use and enjoyment of the Association and its Members, such property and facilities to be identified by written notice from the Declarant to the Association and to remain a part of the Area of Common Responsibility and be maintained by the Association until such time as Declarant revokes such privilege of use and enjoyment by written notice to the Association.

The Association may, as a Common Expense, maintain other property and improvements which it does not own, including, without limitation, property dedicated to the public, or provide maintenance or services related to such property over and above the level being provided by the property owner, if the Board of Directors determines that such maintenance is necessary or desirable to maintain the Community-Wide Standard. For example, the Association may maintain any fence, wall, entry feature or sign serving to enhance or designate the entry to Saddle Creek Forest regardless that such improvements are not located within the Common Area or the Properties.

(b) The Association may be relieved of all or any portion of its maintenance responsibilities herein to the extent that (a) such maintenance responsibility is otherwise assumed by or assigned to an Owner, a Neighborhood Association or the owner of a Private Amenity or (b) such property is dedicated to any other local, state or federal governmental or quasi-governmental entity; provided, however, that in connection with such assumption, assignment or dedication, the Association may reserve or assume the right or obligation to continue to perform all or any portion of its maintenance responsibilities, if the Board determines that such maintenance is necessary or desirable to maintain the Community-Wide Standard.

(c) The Association shall maintain the facilities and equipment within the Area of Common Responsibility in continuous operation, except for any periods necessary, as determined in the sole discretion of the Board, to perform required maintenance or repairs, unless Members holding sixty-seven percent (67%) of the Class "A" votes in the Association and the Class "B" Member, if any, agree in writing to discontinue such operation. Except as provided above, the Area of Common Responsibility shall not be reduced by amendment of this Declaration or any other means during the Development Period except with the written consent of the Declarant.

(d) Except as otherwise specifically provided herein, all costs associated with maintenance, repair and replacement of the Area of Common Responsibility shall be a Common Expense to be allocated among all Lots as part of the General Assessment, without prejudice to the right of the

Association to seek reimbursement from the owner(s) of, or other Persons responsible for, certain portions of the Area of Common Responsibility pursuant to this Declaration, any Cost Sharing Agreements, any recorded covenants, or any agreements with the owner(s) thereof. All costs associated with maintenance, repair and replacement of Exclusive Common Areas shall be a Neighborhood Expense assessed as a Neighborhood Assessment solely against the Lots within the Neighborhood(s) to which the Exclusive Common Areas are assigned, or a Specific Assessment against the particular Lots to which the Exclusive Common Areas are assigned, notwithstanding that the Association may be responsible for performing such maintenance hereunder.

(e) The Association shall have the right, but not the obligation, to maintain the grass and other landscaping on each unimproved Lot. For purposes of this Section, unimproved Lot shall mean a Lot without a dwelling.

(f) In the event that the Association fails to properly perform its maintenance responsibilities hereunder and to comply with the Community-Wide Standard, the Declarant may, upon not less than ten (10) Days' notice and opportunity to cure such failure, cause such maintenance to be performed and, in such event, shall be entitled to reimbursement from the Association for all costs incurred.

5.2 Owner's Responsibility. Each Owner shall maintain his or her Lot, and all structures, parking areas, landscaping and other flora and other improvements comprising the Lot in a manner consistent with the Community-Wide Standard and all Governing Documents, unless such maintenance responsibility is otherwise assumed by or assigned to the Association or a Neighborhood Association. With respect to any Lot upon which a dwelling has not yet been constructed, such maintenance responsibility shall include, but is not limited to, the removal of all litter and trash on a regular basis. In addition to any other enforcement rights, if an Owner fails to perform properly his or her maintenance responsibility, the Association may perform such maintenance responsibilities and assess all costs incurred by the Association against the Lot and the Owner in accordance with Section 8.3. The Association shall afford the Owner reasonable notice and an opportunity to cure the problem prior to entry, except when entry is required due to an emergency situation. Entry by the Association or its designee under this Section shall not constitute a trespass.

5.3 Neighborhood's Responsibility. Upon resolution of the Board of Directors, the Owners of Lots within each Neighborhood shall be responsible for paying, through Neighborhood Assessments, the costs of operating, maintaining and insuring certain portions of the Area of Common Responsibility within or adjacent to such Neighborhood. This may include, without limitation, the costs of maintaining any signage, entry features, right-of-way and greenspace between the Neighborhood and adjacent public roads, private streets within the Neighborhood, and lakes or ponds within the Neighborhood, regardless of Ownership or the Person performing the maintenance; provided, however, all Neighborhoods which are similarly situated shall be treated the same.

Any Neighborhood Association having responsibility for maintenance within a particular Neighborhood pursuant to additional covenants applicable to such Neighborhood shall perform such maintenance responsibility in a manner consistent with the Community-Wide Standard. If it fails to do so, the Association may perform such responsibilities and assess the costs as a Specific Assessment against all Lots within such Neighborhood as provided in Section 8.3.

5.4 Standard of Performance. Unless otherwise specifically provided herein or in other instruments creating and assigning such maintenance responsibility, responsibility for maintenance shall include responsibility for repair and replacement, as necessary. All maintenance shall be performed in a manner consistent with the Community-Wide Standard and all Governing Documents. Neither the Association, any Owner, nor any Neighborhood Association shall be liable for any damage or injury

occurring on, or arising out of the condition of, property which such Person does not own except to the extent that it has been negligent in the performance of its maintenance responsibilities.

#### 5.5 Party Walls and Similar Structures.

(a) General Rules of Law to Apply. Each wall, fence, driveway or similar structure built as a part of the original construction on the Lots which serves and/or separates any two adjoining Lots shall constitute a party structure. To the extent not inconsistent with the provisions of this Section, the general rules of law regarding party walls and liability for property damage due to negligence or willful acts or omissions shall apply thereto.

(b) Sharing of Repair and Maintenance. The cost of reasonable repair and maintenance of a party structure shall be shared equally by the Owners who make use of the party structure.

(c) Damage and Destruction. If a party structure is destroyed or damaged by fire or other casualty, then to the extent that such damage is not covered by insurance and repaired out of the proceeds of insurance, any Owner who has used the structure may restore it. If other Owners thereafter use the structure, they shall contribute to the restoration cost in equal proportions. However, such contribution will not prejudice the right to call for a larger contribution from the other users under any rule of law regarding liability for negligent or willful acts or omissions.

(d) Right to Contribution Runs With Land. The right of any Owner to contribution from any other Owner under this Section shall be appurtenant to the land and shall pass to such Owner's successors-in-title.

5.6 Cost Sharing Agreements. The Association may enter into Cost Sharing Agreements with the owners or operators of portions of the Adjacent Properties or Private Amenities:

(a) to obligate the owners or operators of such Adjacent Properties or Private Amenities to share in certain costs associated with the maintenance, repair, replacement and insuring of portions of the Area of Common Responsibility, if any, which are used by or benefit jointly the owners or operators of such Adjacent Properties or Private Amenities and the Owners within the Properties;

(b) to permit the use of any recreational and other facilities located on such Adjacent Properties or Private Amenities by the Owners of all Lots or by the Owners of Lots within specified Neighborhoods; and/or

(c) to obligate the Association to share in certain costs associated with the maintenance, repair, replacement and insuring of portions of such Adjacent Properties or Private Amenities, if any, which are used by or benefit jointly the owners of such Adjacent Properties or Private Amenities and the Owners within the Properties.

The owners of such Adjacent Properties shall not be Members of the Association and shall not be entitled to vote on any Association matter.

The owners of such Adjacent Properties or Private Amenities shall be subject to assessment by the Association only in accordance with the provisions of such Cost Sharing Agreement(s). If the Association is obligated to share costs incurred by the owners of such Adjacent Properties or Private Amenities, the Cost Sharing Agreement shall provide whether such payments by the Association shall constitute Common Expenses or Neighborhood Expenses of the Association. The owners of the Adjacent

Properties or Private Amenities shall not be subject to the restrictions contained in this Declaration except as otherwise specifically provided herein.

**Article 6.**  
**INSURANCE AND CASUALTY LOSSES**

**6.1 Association Insurance.**

(a) **Required Coverages.** The Association, acting through its Board or its duly authorized agent, shall obtain and continue in effect such types of insurance as required by Texas law, including the following types of insurance, if reasonably available, or if not reasonably available, the most nearly equivalent coverages as are reasonably available:

(i) Blanket property insurance covering "risks of direct physical loss" on a "special form" basis (or comparable coverage by whatever name denominated) for all insurable improvements on the Common Area, if any, and on other portions of the Area of Common Responsibility to the extent that it has assumed responsibility for maintenance, repair and/or replacement in the event of a casualty. If such coverage is not generally available at reasonable cost, then "broad form" coverage may be substituted. The Association shall have the authority to and interest in insuring any property for which it has maintenance or repair responsibility, regardless of ownership. All property insurance policies obtained by the Association shall have policy limits sufficient to cover the full replacement cost of the insured improvements;

(ii) Commercial general liability insurance on the Area of Common Responsibility, insuring the Association and its Members for damage or injury caused by the negligence of the Association or any of its Members, employees, agents, or contractors while acting on its behalf. If generally available at reasonable cost, the commercial general liability coverage (including primary and any umbrella coverage) shall have a limit of at least one million dollars (\$1,000,000.00) per occurrence and two million dollars (\$2,000,000.00) in the aggregate with respect to bodily injury, personal injury, and property damage, provided should additional coverage and higher limits be available at reasonable cost which a reasonably prudent person would obtain, the Association shall obtain such additional coverages or limits;

(iii) Workers compensation insurance and employers liability insurance, if and to the extent required by law;

(iv) Directors and officers liability coverage;

(v) Fidelity insurance covering all Persons responsible for handling Association funds in an amount determined in the Board's best business judgment but not less than an amount equal to one-sixth (1/6th) of the annual General Assessments on all Lots plus reserves on hand. Fidelity insurance policies shall contain a waiver of all defenses based upon the exclusion of Persons serving without compensation; and

(vi) Such additional insurance as the Board, in its best business judgment, determines advisable, which may include, without limitation, flood insurance.

In the event that any portion of the Common Area is or shall become located in an area identified by the Federal Emergency Management Agency ("FEMA") as an area having special flood hazards, a "blanket" policy of flood insurance on the Common Area must be maintained in the amount of one

hundred percent (100%) of current "replacement cost" of all affected improvements and other insured property or the maximum limit of coverage available, whichever is less.

In addition, the Association may obtain and maintain property insurance on the insurable improvements within any Neighborhood in such amounts and with such coverages as the Owners in such Neighborhood may agree upon pursuant to Section 2.3 of the By-Laws. Any such policies shall provide for a certificate of insurance to be furnished to the Neighborhood Association and to the Owner of each Lot insured upon request.

Premiums for all insurance on the Area of Common Responsibility shall be Common Expenses and shall be included in the General Assessment, except that (i) premiums for property insurance obtained on behalf of a Neighborhood shall be charged to the Owners of Lots within the benefitted Neighborhood as a Neighborhood Assessment; and (ii) premiums for insurance on Exclusive Common Areas may be included in the Neighborhood Assessment of the Neighborhood(s) benefitted unless the Board of Directors reasonably determines that other treatment of the premiums is more appropriate. In the event of an insured loss, the deductible shall be treated as a Common Expense or a Neighborhood Expense and assessed in the same manner as the premiums for the applicable insurance coverage. However, if the Board reasonably determines, after notice and an opportunity to be heard in accordance with the By-Laws, that the loss is the result of the negligence or willful misconduct of one (1) or more Owners, their guests, invitees, or lessees, then the Board may specifically assess the full amount of such deductible against such Owner(s) and their Lots pursuant to Section 8.3.

The Association shall have no insurance responsibility for any portion of the Private Amenities.

(b) Policy Requirements. The Association shall arrange for periodic reviews of the sufficiency of insurance coverage by one (1) or more qualified Persons, at least one (1) of whom must be familiar with insurable replacement costs in the Waller or Grimes County and/or Magnolia, Texas metropolitan area.

All Association policies shall provide for a certificate of insurance to be furnished to the Association, and to each Member upon request. The policies may contain a reasonable deductible and the amount thereof shall not be subtracted from the face amount of the policy in determining whether the policy limits satisfy the requirements of Section 6.1(a).

All insurance coverage obtained by the Board shall:

(i) be written with a company authorized to do business in the State of Texas which satisfies the requirements of the Federal National Mortgage Association, or such other secondary mortgage market agencies or federal agencies as the Board deems appropriate;

(ii) be written in the name of the Association as trustee for the benefitted parties. Policies on the Common Areas shall be for the benefit of the Association and its Members. Policies secured on behalf of a Neighborhood shall be for the benefit of the Owners of Lots within the Neighborhood and their Mortgagees, as their interests may appear;

(iii) not be brought into contribution with insurance purchased by Owners, occupants, or their Mortgagees individually;

(iv) contain an inflation guard endorsement;

(v) include an agreed amount endorsement, if the policy contains a co-insurance clause; and

(vi) include an endorsement requiring at least thirty (30) Days prior written notice to the Association of any cancellation, substantial modification, or non-renewal.

In addition, the Board shall use reasonable efforts to secure insurance policies which list the Owners as additional insureds and provide:

(i) a waiver of subrogation as to any claims against the Association's Board, officers, employees, and its manager, the Owners and their tenants, servants, agents, and guests;

(ii) a waiver of the insurer's rights to repair and reconstruct instead of paying cash;

(iii) an endorsement precluding cancellation, invalidation, suspension, or non-renewal by the insurer on account of any one (1) or more individual Owners, or on account of any curable defect or violation without prior written demand to the Association to cure the defect or violation and allowance of a reasonable time to cure;

(iv) an endorsement excluding Owners' individual policies from consideration under any "other insurance" clause;

(v) a cross liability provision; and

(vi) a provision vesting the Board with the exclusive authority to adjust losses; provided, however, no Mortgagee having an interest in such losses may be prohibited from participating in the settlement negotiations, if any, related to the loss.

(c) Damage and Destruction. In the event of any insured loss, only the Board or its duly authorized agent may file and adjust insurance claims and obtain reliable and detailed estimates of the cost of repair or reconstruction. Repair or reconstruction, as used in this subsection, means repairing or restoring the property to substantially the condition in which it existed prior to the damage, allowing for changes or improvements necessitated by changes in applicable building codes.

Any damage to or destruction of the Common Area shall be repaired or reconstructed unless the Voting Delegates representing at least sixty-seven percent (67%) of the total Class "A" votes in the Association, and, during the Development Period, the Declarant, decide within sixty (60) Days after the loss not to repair or reconstruct.

If either the insurance proceeds or reliable and detailed estimates of the cost of repair or reconstruction, or both, are not available to the Association within such sixty (60) Day period, then the period shall be extended until such funds or information are available. However, such extension shall not exceed sixty (60) additional Days. No Mortgagee shall have the right to participate in the determination of whether the damage or destruction to the Common Area shall be repaired or reconstructed.

If determined in the manner described above that the damage or destruction to the Common Area shall not be repaired or reconstructed and no alternative improvements are authorized, the affected property shall be cleared of all debris and ruins and thereafter shall be maintained by the Association in a neat and attractive, landscaped condition consistent with the Community-Wide Standard.

Any insurance proceeds remaining after paying the costs of repair or reconstruction, or after such settlement as is necessary and appropriate, shall be retained by and for the benefit of the Association or the Neighborhood, as appropriate, and placed in a capital improvements account. This is a covenant for the benefit of Mortgagees and may be enforced by the Mortgagee of any affected Lot.

If insurance proceeds are insufficient to cover the costs of repair or reconstruction, the Board of Directors may, without a vote of the Voting Delegates, levy Special Assessments to cover the shortfall against those Owners responsible for the premiums for the applicable insurance coverage under Section 6.1(a).

6.2 Owners' Insurance. By virtue of taking title to a Lot, each Owner covenants and agrees with all other Owners and with the Association to carry property insurance for the full replacement cost of all insurable improvements on his or her Lot, less a reasonable deductible, unless either the Neighborhood Association (if any) for the Neighborhood in which the Lot is located or the Association carries such insurance (which they may, but are not obligated to do hereunder). If the Association assumes responsibility for obtaining any insurance coverage on behalf of Owners, the premiums for such insurance shall be levied as a Specific Assessment against the benefitted Lot and the Owner thereof pursuant to Section 8.3.

Each Owner further covenants and agrees that in the event of damage to or destruction of structures on or comprising his or her Lot, the Owner shall proceed promptly to repair or to reconstruct in a manner consistent with the original construction or such other plans and specifications as are approved in accordance with Article 9. Alternatively, the Owner shall clear the Lot of all debris and ruins and maintain the Lot in a neat and attractive, landscaped condition consistent with the Community-Wide Standard. The Owner shall pay any costs which are not covered by insurance proceeds.

The requirements of this Section shall also apply to any Neighborhood Association that owns common property within the Neighborhood in the same manner as if the Neighborhood Association were an Owner and the common property were a Lot. Additional recorded covenants applicable to any Neighborhood may establish more stringent requirements for insurance and more stringent standards for rebuilding or reconstructing structures on the Lots within such Neighborhood and for clearing and maintaining the Lots in the event the structures are not rebuilt or reconstructed.

6.3 Limitation of Liability. Notwithstanding the duty of the Association to maintain and repair portions of the Common Area, neither the Association, its Board of Directors, nor any respective officer, director, committee member, employee, agent, contractor (including the management company, if any) of any of the same shall be liable to any Member or the Member's immediate household for any injury or damage sustained in the Area of Common Responsibility, the Common Area or other area maintained by the Association, or for any injury or damage caused by the negligence or misconduct of any Members or their family members, guests, invitees, agents, servants, contractors or lessees, whether such loss occurs in the Common Area or in individual Lots.

Each Owner, by virtue of the acceptance of title to his or her Lot, and each other Person having an interest in or right to use any portion of the Properties, by virtue of accepting such interest or right to use, shall be bound by this Section and shall be deemed to have automatically waived any and all rights, claims, demands, and causes of action against the Association arising from or connected with any matter for which the liability of the Association has been disclaimed under this Section.

#### Article 7.

#### ANNEXATION AND WITHDRAWAL OF PROPERTY

7.1 Annexation by Declarant. Until twenty (20) years after the recording of this Declaration in the Public Records, Declarant may from time to time unilaterally subject to the provisions of this Declaration all or any portion of the Additional Property. The Declarant may transfer or assign this right to annex property, provided that the transferee or assignee is the developer of at least a portion of the real property described in Exhibits "A" or "B" and that such transfer is memorialized in a written, recorded instrument executed by Declarant.



Such annexation shall be accomplished by filing a Supplemental Declaration in the Public Records describing the property being annexed. Such Supplemental Declaration shall not require the consent of Members, but shall require the consent of the owner of such property, if other than Declarant. Any such annexation shall be effective upon the filing for record of such Supplemental Declaration unless otherwise provided therein.

Nothing in this Declaration shall be construed to require the Declarant or any successor to annex or develop any of the Additional Property in any manner whatsoever.

7.2 Annexation by Membership. The Association may annex any real property to the provisions of this Declaration with the consent of the owner of such property, the affirmative vote of Voting Delegates representing a Majority of the Class "A" votes of the Association represented at a meeting duly called for such purpose, and the written consent of the Declarant during the Development Period.

Such annexation shall be accomplished by filing a Supplemental Declaration describing the property being annexed in the Public Records. Any such Supplemental Declaration shall be signed by the President and the Secretary of the Association, and by the owner of the annexed property, and by the Declarant, if the Declarant's consent is required. Any such annexation shall be effective upon filing unless otherwise provided therein.

7.3 Withdrawal of Property. The Declarant reserves the right to amend this Declaration during the Development Period, for the purpose of removing any portion of the Properties from the coverage of this Declaration. Such amendment shall not require the consent of any Person other than the Owner of the property to be withdrawn, if not the Declarant. If the property is Common Area, the Association shall consent to such withdrawal.

7.4 Additional Covenants and Easements. The Declarant may unilaterally subject any portion of the Properties to additional covenants and easements, including covenants obligating the Association to maintain and insure such property on behalf of the Owners and obligating such Owners to pay the costs incurred by the Association through Neighborhood Assessments. Such additional covenants and easements shall be set forth in a Supplemental Declaration filed either concurrently with or after the annexation of the subject property, and shall require the written consent of the owner(s) of such property, if other than the Declarant. Any such Supplemental Declaration may supplement, create exceptions to, or otherwise modify the terms of this Declaration as it applies to the subject property in order to reflect the different character and intended use of such property.

7.5 Amendment. This Article shall not be amended during the Development Period without the prior written consent of Declarant.

## **Article 8.**

### **ASSESSMENTS**

8.1 Creation of Assessments. There are hereby created assessments for Association expenses as the Board may specifically authorize from time to time. There shall be four (4) types of assessments: (a) General Assessments to fund Common Expenses for the general benefit of all Lots; (b) Neighborhood Assessments for Neighborhood Expenses benefiting only Lots within a particular Neighborhood or Neighborhoods; (c) Special Assessments as described in Section 8.2; and (d) Specific Assessments as described in Section 8.3. Each Owner, by accepting a deed or entering into a contract of sale for any portion of the Properties, is deemed to covenant and agree to pay these assessments.

All assessments and fees, together with interest, late charges, costs of collection, and reasonable attorneys' fees as allowed by the Act, shall be a charge and continuing lien upon each Lot against which the assessment is made until paid, as more particularly provided in this Section below and in Section 8.4. Each such assessment, together with interest, late charges, costs, and reasonable attorneys' fees as allowed by the Act, shall also be the personal obligation of the Person who was the Owner of such Lot at the time the assessment arose. Upon a transfer of title to a Lot, the grantee shall be jointly and severally liable for any assessments and other charges due at the time of conveyance. However, no first Mortgagee who obtains title to a Lot by exercising the remedies provided in its Mortgage or through a deed in lieu of foreclosure shall be liable for unpaid assessments which accrued prior to such acquisition of title.

The Association shall, upon written request, furnish to any Owner liable for any type of assessment a written statement signed by an Association officer setting forth whether such assessment has been paid. Such statement shall be furnished within ten (10) business Days after receipt of the request and shall be conclusive evidence of payment. The Association may require the advance payment of a reasonable processing fee for the issuance of such statement.

Assessments shall be paid in such manner and on such dates as the Board may establish, which may include discounts for early payment or similar time/price differentials. The Board may require advance payment of assessments at closing of the transfer of title to a Lot and impose special requirements for Owners with a history of delinquent payment. If the Board so elects, assessments may be paid in two (2) or more installments. Unless the Board otherwise provides, the General Assessment and any Neighborhood Assessment shall be due and payable in advance on the first (1st) day of each fiscal year. If any Owner is delinquent in paying any assessments or other charges levied on his or her Lot, the Board may require any unpaid installments of all outstanding assessments to be paid in full immediately. Any assessment or installment thereof shall be considered delinquent on the fifteenth (15th) day following the due date unless otherwise specified by Board resolution.

No Owner may exempt himself or herself from liability for assessments by non-use of Common Area, including Exclusive Common Area reserved for such Owner's use, abandonment of his or her Lot, or any other means. Notwithstanding the above or anything herein to the contrary, however, (a) the obligation to pay assessments shall not commence until the Lot is conveyed to a Person other than the Declarant, as set forth in Section 8.5; (b) no Owner shall be obligated to pay more General, Neighborhood, or Special Assessments in any one fiscal year than the amount allocated to two (2) Lots, irrespective of the number of Lots owned by such Owner in Saddle Creek Forest; and (c) if an Owner owns more than two (2) Lots in Saddle Creek Forest, the lien rights set forth herein shall attach to each and every Lot owned by said Owner in Saddle Creek Forest for the full amount of all assessments and charges due and owing. The obligation to pay assessments is a separate and independent covenant on the part of each Owner. No diminution or abatement of assessments or set-off shall be claimed or allowed for any alleged failure of the Association or Board to take some action or perform some function required of it, or for inconvenience or discomfort arising from the making of repairs or improvements, or from any other action taken by the Association or Board.

The Association is specifically authorized to enter into subsidy contracts or contracts for "in kind" contribution of services, materials, or a combination of services and materials with the Declarant or other entities for payment of Common Expenses.

8.2 Special Assessments. In addition to other authorized assessments, the Association may levy Special Assessments from time to time to cover unbudgeted expenses or expenses in excess of those budgeted. Any such Special Assessment may be levied against all Lots, if such Special Assessment is for Common Expenses, or against the Lots within any Neighborhood if such Special Assessment is for Neighborhood Expenses. Special Assessments shall be allocated equally among all Lots subject to such

Special Assessment. Any Special Assessment shall become effective unless disapproved at a meeting of Voting Delegates representing at least sixty-seven percent (67%) of the total Class "A" votes allocated to Lots which will be subject to such Special Assessment and by the Declarant during the Development Period. There shall be no obligation to call a meeting for the purpose of considering any Special Assessment except on petition of the Voting Delegates as provided for special meetings in Section 2.9 of the By-Laws, which petition must be presented to the Board within twenty (20) Days after delivery of the notice of such Special Assessment. Special Assessments shall be payable in such manner and at such times as determined by the Board, and may be payable in installments extending beyond the fiscal year in which the Special Assessment is approved.

8.3 Specific Assessments. The Association shall have the power to levy Specific Assessments against a particular Lot or Lots as follows:

(a) to cover the costs, including overhead and administrative costs, of providing benefits, items, or services to the Lot(s) or occupants thereof upon request of the Owner pursuant to a menu of special services which the Board may from time to time authorize to be offered to Owners and occupants (which might include, without limitation, landscape maintenance, garbage collection and similar services and facilities), which assessments may be levied in advance of the provision of the requested benefit, item or service as a deposit against charges to be incurred by the Owner;

(b) to cover the costs associated with maintenance, repair, replacement and insurance of any Exclusive Common Area assigned to one (1) or more Lots; and

(c) to cover costs incurred in bringing the Lot(s) into compliance with the terms of the Governing Documents or costs incurred as a consequence of the conduct of the Owner or occupants of the Lot, their agents, contractors, employees, licensees, invitees, or guests; provided, however, the Board shall give the Lot Owner prior written notice and an opportunity for a hearing, in accordance with the By-Laws, before levying any Specific Assessment under this subsection (c).

The Association may also levy a Specific Assessment against the Lots within any Neighborhood to reimburse the Association for costs incurred in bringing the Neighborhood into compliance with the provisions of the Declaration, any applicable Supplemental Declaration, the Articles, the By-Laws, and rules; provided, however, the Board shall give prior written notice to the Owners of Lots in, or the Voting Delegate representing, the Neighborhood and an opportunity for such Owners or Voting Delegate to be heard before levying any such assessment.

8.4 Remedies for Non-Payment of Assessments. Any assessments or other charges which are not paid when due shall be delinquent. Delinquent assessments shall bear interest from the due date at the rate established by the Board of Directors of the Association, or, if not set by the Board, at the highest rate allowed by law, together with such late fees as may be set by the Board. The Association may file a lien of record against any Lot where there remains an assessment unpaid for a period of thirty (30) Days or longer. Said lien shall be filed in the Public Records in a manner provided therefore by Title 5, Chapter 12 of the Texas Property Code. Such lien shall be superior to all other liens, except (a) the liens of all taxes, bonds, assessments, and other levies which by law would be superior, and (b) the lien or charge of any first Mortgage of record (meaning any recorded Mortgage with first priority over other Mortgages) made in good faith and for value. The Association may bring an action at law against any Owner personally obligated to pay any assessments, charges, interest or other costs. Costs and reasonable attorneys' fees for the prosecution of any such action, as allowed by the Act, shall be added to the amount due. In the event of such action at law and in the further event that such action results in a judgment being entered against the Owner and in favor of the Association, then, and in that event, the Association

shall collect on such judgment in such manner and to the extent provided and permitted by the laws of the State of Texas.

The Association's lien may be foreclosed by judicial or nonjudicial foreclosure in like manner as a Mortgage on real estate under power of sale under Title 5, Chapter 51 of the Texas Property Code. All fees, charges, late charges, fines, and interest are enforceable as assessments.

In any foreclosure action brought under the power of sale provisions, the Association shall be deemed to be the holder and owner of the obligation secured by this Declaration. The registered agent of the Association shall be the trustee for all purposes of the foreclosure proceeding, and the Association shall have the power to appoint a substitute trustee if for any reason the Association desires to replace the trustee, and the substitute trustee shall succeed to all rights, powers and duties thereof. The Association shall request of the trustee to sell the Lot subject to the lien at public action for cash, after having first given such notice and advertising the time and place of such sale in such manner as may then be provided by law for Mortgages, and upon such sale and upon compliance with the law then relating to foreclosure proceedings under power of sale to convey to the purchaser in as full and ample manner as authorized by Title 5, Chapter 51 of the Texas Property Code. The trustee shall be authorized to retain an attorney to represent such trustee in such proceedings. The proceeds of the sale shall, after the trustee retains its commission, together with any additional attorneys' fees incurred by the trustee, be applied to the costs of the sale, including but not limited to costs of collection, taxes, assessments, costs of recording, service fees, and incidental expenditures, the amount due on any note secured by the Lot, and any advancements made by the Association in the protection of the security.

The Association may bid for the Lot at the foreclosure sale and acquire, hold, lease, mortgage, and convey the Lot. While a Lot is owned by the Association following foreclosure: (a) no right to vote shall be exercised on its behalf; (b) no assessment shall be levied on it; and (c) each other Lot shall be charged, in addition to its usual assessment, its pro rata share of the assessment that would have been charged such Lot had it not been acquired by the Association. The Association may sue for unpaid assessments and other charges authorized hereunder without foreclosing or waiving the lien securing the same.

The sale or transfer of any Lot shall not affect the assessment lien or relieve such Lot from the lien for any subsequent assessments. However, the sale or transfer of any Lot pursuant to foreclosure of the first Mortgage shall extinguish the lien as to any installments of such assessments due prior to such sale or transfer. A Mortgagee or other purchaser of a Lot who obtains title pursuant to foreclosure of the Mortgage shall not be personally liable for assessments on such Lot due prior to such acquisition of title. Such unpaid assessments shall be deemed to be Common Expenses collectible from Owners of all Lots subject to assessment under Section 8.5, including such acquirer, its successors and assigns.

8.5 Date of Commencement of Assessments. The obligation to pay assessments shall commence as to each Lot on the date that such Lot is conveyed to a Person other than Declarant. The first annual General Assessment and Neighborhood Assessment, if any, levied on each Lot shall be adjusted according to the number of Days remaining in the fiscal year at the time of assessments commence on the Lot.

8.6 Failure to Assess. Failure of the Board to fix assessment amounts or rates or to deliver or mail each Owner an assessment notice shall not be deemed a waiver, modification, or a release of any Owner from the obligation to pay assessments. In such event, each Owner shall continue to pay General Assessments and Neighborhood Assessments on the same basis as during the last year for which an assessment was made, if any, until a new assessment is levied, at which time the Association may retroactively assess any shortfalls in collections.

8.7 Exempt Property. The following property shall be exempt from payment of General Assessments, Neighborhood Assessments, and Special Assessments:

- (a) All Common Area and such portions of the property owned by the Declarant as are included in the Area of Common Responsibility pursuant to Section 5.1;
- (b) Any property dedicated to and accepted by any governmental authority or public utility;
- (c) Property owned by any Neighborhood Association for the common use and enjoyment of its members, or owned by the members of a Neighborhood Association as tenants-in-common; and
- (d) Any property that is owned by a charitable organization or nonprofit corporation or public agency whose primary purposes include the acquisition and preservation of open spaces for public benefit, and which is held by such agency or organization for such recreational or open space purposes.

8.8 Default Interest Rate; NSF Checks; Late Fees. Except as otherwise provided in the Governing Documents, any assessment levied upon an Owner which is not paid within fifteen (15) Days after the date upon which it is due shall bear interest at the lesser of (a) the rate of eighteen percent (18%) per annum; or (b) the maximum rate of interest permissible under the laws of the State of Texas. In addition, if any Owner pays any assessment (General, Neighborhood, Special or Specific) with a check on an account that has insufficient funds ("NSF"), the Board may, in its sole discretion, demand that all future payments be made by certified check or money order along with imposing a reasonable processing charge. Finally, the Association may charge a delinquent Owner an administrative/late fee in an amount determined by the Board of Directors for each installment due to the Association which is delinquent. Any payment received by the Association shall be applied first to any attorneys' fees and other costs of collection, then to any interest accrued on the late installment, then to any administrative late fee, and then to the delinquent assessment.

#### Article 9.

#### ARCHITECTURAL STANDARDS

9.1 General. No exterior structure or improvement, as described in Section 9.4, shall be placed, erected, installed or made (a) upon any Lot, or (b) adjacent to any Lot where the purpose of the structure is to service such Lot, and no improvements shall be permitted except in compliance with this Article, and with the prior written approval of the appropriate reviewing body under this Article, unless exempted from the application and approval requirements pursuant to Section 9.3.

Any Owner may remodel, paint or redecorate the interior of structures on his Lot without approval. However, modifications to the interior of porches, screened porches, patios, and similar portions of a Lot visible from outside the structures on the Lot shall be subject to approval.

All dwellings constructed on any portion of the Properties shall be designed by and built in accordance with the plans and specifications of a licensed architect unless Declarant or its designee otherwise approves in its sole discretion.

This Article shall not apply to the activities of the Declarant, or to improvements to the Common Area by or on behalf of the Association, or to improvements to any Private Amenity.

This Article may not be amended without the Declarant's written consent during the Development Period.

9.2 Architectural Review. Each Owner, by accepting a deed or other instrument conveying any interest in any portion of the Properties acknowledges that, as the developer of the Properties, Declarant has a substantial interest in ensuring that all structures and improvements within the Properties enhance Declarant's reputation as a community developer and do not impair Declarant's ability to market, sell or lease any portion of the Properties or the Additional Property. Therefore, the Declarant may, on its behalf, establish an Architectural Review Board to be responsible for administration of the Design Guidelines and review of all applications for construction and modifications under this Article. During the Class "B" Control Period, the members of the ARB need not be Members of the Association or representatives of Members, and may, but need not, include architects, landscape architects, engineers or similar professionals, whose compensation, if any, shall be established from time to time by the ARB. The ARB may establish and charge reasonable fees for review of applications hereunder and may require such fees to be paid in full prior to review of any application. Such fees may include the reasonable costs incurred by the ARB in having any application reviewed by architects, engineers or other professionals.

The ARB shall have, during the Class "B" Control Period, exclusive jurisdiction over all construction on any portion of the Properties. During the Class "B" Control Period, the Declarant retains the right to appoint all members of the ARB which may consist of one (1) or more Persons, who shall serve at the Declarant's discretion. There shall be no surrender of this right prior to expiration of the Class "B" Control Period except in a written instrument in recordable form executed by Declarant. Upon the expiration or surrender of such right, the elected Board shall constitute and be the members of the ARB (and shall, further, have authority to delegate the responsibilities of the ARB to a committee of Members subject to appointment and removal by the Board). The ARB shall thereafter have jurisdiction only over modifications, additions or alterations of Lots, including existing structures and landscaping, made after completion of initial construction on the Lot. The ARB may delegate its authority as to a particular Neighborhood to the relevant Neighborhood Association, if any, so long as the ARB has determined that such Neighborhood Association has in force such review and enforcement practices, procedures and appropriate standards at least equal to those of the ARB. Such delegation may be revoked and jurisdiction reassumed by the ARB at any time by written notice. The ARB shall have the right to veto any action taken by the Neighborhood Association which the ARB determines, in its sole discretion, to be inconsistent with the guidelines promulgated by the ARB.

Upon expiration of the Declarant's right to appoint the members of the ARB, the Declarant, or a committee of persons appointed by the Declarant which may consist of the same persons who previously constituted the ARB and who need not be Members of the Association, shall retain all architectural control authority set forth in this Article pertaining to the initial construction on each Lot until one hundred percent (100%) of the Lots have been developed and conveyed to Owners other than Builders, and initial construction on each Lot has been completed in accordance with the Design Guidelines, unless such right is earlier surrendered in a written instrument in recordable form executed by Declarant.

### 9.3 Guidelines and Procedures.

(a) Design Guidelines. The Declarant may prepare and adopt the initial Design Guidelines for the Properties. The Design Guidelines may contain general provisions applicable to all of the Properties, as well as specific provisions which vary according to land use and from one portion of the Properties to another depending upon the location, unique characteristics, and intended use. For example, by way of illustration but not limitation, the Design Guidelines may impose stricter requirements on those portions of the Properties adjacent to or visible from any Private Amenity or any lake, pond, river, stream or other body of water. The Design Guidelines are intended to provide guidance to Owners and Builders regarding matters of particular concern to the committees in considering applications hereunder. The Design Guidelines are not the exclusive basis for decisions of the committees and compliance with the Design Guidelines does not guarantee approval of any application.

During the Development Period, the Declarant shall have sole authority to adopt and amend the Design Guidelines. Thereafter, or at such earlier time as the Declarant may surrender such right in a written instrument in recordable form, the ARB shall have authority to amend the Design Guidelines. Any amendments to the Design Guidelines shall be prospective only and shall not apply to require modifications to or removal of structures previously approved once the approved construction or modification has commenced. There shall be no limitation on the scope of amendments to the Design Guidelines; the Declarant or ARB, as appropriate, is expressly authorized to amend the Design Guidelines to remove requirements previously imposed or otherwise to make the Design Guidelines less restrictive. The ARB shall make the Design Guidelines available to Owners and Builders who seek to engage in development or construction within the Properties.

(b) Procedures. Plans and specifications showing the nature, kind, shape, color, size, materials, and location of all proposed structures and improvements shall be submitted to the Declarant or ARB, as appropriate, for review and approval (or disapproval). In addition, information concerning irrigation systems, drainage, lighting, grading, landscaping and other features of proposed construction shall be submitted as applicable and as required by the Design Guidelines. In reviewing each submission, the Declarant or ARB may consider the quality of workmanship and design, harmony of external design with existing structures, and location in relation to surrounding structures, topography, and finish grade elevation, among other considerations. In reviewing and acting upon any request for approval during the Class "B" Control Period, the ARB shall be acting solely in Declarant's interest and shall owe no duty to any other Person. Decisions of the Declarant or ARB may be based solely on aesthetic considerations. Each Owner acknowledges that opinions on aesthetic matters are subjective and may vary over time.

In the event that the appropriate reviewing body fails to approve or to disapprove any application within thirty (30) Days after submission of all information and materials reasonably requested, the application shall be deemed approved. However, no approval, whether expressly granted or deemed granted pursuant to the foregoing, shall be inconsistent with the Design Guidelines unless a variance has been granted in writing by the appropriate reviewing body pursuant to Section 9.7.

Notwithstanding the above, the appropriate reviewing body by resolution may exempt certain activities from the application and approval requirements of this Article, provided such activities are undertaken in strict compliance with the requirements of such resolution.

Approval by the Declarant or ARB, as appropriate, shall be effective for a period of one (1) year from the date the approval is given. If work has not commenced within the one (1) year period, the approval shall expire, and no work shall thereafter commence without resubmitting plans to the appropriate reviewing body.

#### 9.4 Specific Guidelines and Restrictions.

(a) Exterior Structures and Improvements. Exterior structures and improvements shall include, but shall not be limited to, staking, clearing, excavation, grading and other site work; installation of utility lines or drainage improvements; initial construction of any dwelling or accessory building; exterior alteration of existing improvements; installation or replacement of mailboxes; basketball hoops; swing sets and similar sports and play equipment; clotheslines; garbage cans; wood piles; swimming pools; gazebos or playhouses; window air-conditioning units or fans; hot tubs; solar panels; antennas; satellite dishes or any other apparatus for the transmission or reception of television, radio, satellite, or other signals of any kind; hedges, walls, dog runs, animal pens, or fences of any kind, including invisible fences; artificial vegetation or sculpture; and planting or removal of landscaping materials. Notwithstanding the foregoing, the Declarant and the Association shall regulate antennas, satellite dishes,

or any other apparatus for the transmission or reception of television, radio, satellite or other signals of any kind only in strict compliance with all federal laws and regulations.

(b) In addition to the foregoing activities requiring prior approval, the following items are strictly regulated, and the reviewing body shall have the right, in its sole discretion, to prohibit or restrict these items within the Properties. Each Owner must strictly comply with the terms of this Section unless approval or waiver in writing is obtained from the appropriate reviewing body. The ARB may, but is not required to, adopt specific guidelines as part of the Design Guidelines or rules and regulations which address the following items.

(i) Signs. No sign of any kind shall be erected by an Owner or occupant without the prior written consent of the appropriate reviewing body, as applicable, except such signs as may be required by legal proceedings and not more than one (1) professional security sign of such size deemed reasonable by the ARB in its sole discretion. Unless in compliance with this Section, no signs shall be posted or erected by any Owner or occupant within any portion of the Properties, including the Common Area, any Lot, any structure, or dwelling located on the Common Area or any Lot (if such sign would be visible from the exterior of such structure or dwelling as determined in the reviewing body's sole discretion) or from any Private Amenity.

The Declarant and the ARB reserve the right to prohibit signs and to restrict the size, content, color, lettering, design, and placement of any approved signs. All authorized signs must be professionally prepared. The restrictions set forth in this subsection shall not apply to entry, directional, or other signs installed by the Declarant or its duly authorized agent as may be necessary or convenient for the marketing and development of the Properties, including, without limitation, "for sale" signs installed by Declarant and Builder signs installed in accordance with the Design Guidelines.

(ii) Lighting. Exterior lighting visible from a public street shall not be permitted, except for: approved lighting as originally installed on a Lot; approved decorative post lights; pathway lighting; porch lighting; street lights in conformity with an established street lighting program for the Properties; seasonal decorative lights during the usual and common season; or, front house illumination of model homes. All lights shall be installed or aimed so that they do not present a disabling glare to drivers or pedestrians or create a nuisance by projecting or reflecting objectionable light onto a neighboring property.

(iii) Temporary or Detached Structures. Except as may be permitted by the appropriate reviewing body, no temporary house, dwelling, garage, barn or other building shall be placed or erected on any Lot.

No mobile home, trailer home, travel trailer, camper or recreational vehicle shall be stored, parked or otherwise allowed to be placed on a Lot as a temporary or permanent dwelling. These recreational vehicles shall be subject to the restrictions set forth in Section 10.4 of this Declaration.

In addition, no manufactured home shall be placed, erected, constructed or permitted within the Properties. "Manufactured home" shall include any prefabricated or pre-built dwelling which consists of one (1) or more transportable sections or components and shall also be deemed to include manufactured housing, manufactured home, HUD-code manufactured home, and mobile home as defined by the Texas Manufactured Housing Standards Act, Title 83, Article 5221f, Vernon's Texas Civil Statutes. The placement of prefabricated and transportable sections onto a permanent foundation and the inspection of the resulting structure by the building inspector of the local governing authority shall not exempt such structure from this prohibition. Prefabricated accessory structures, such as sheds and gazebos, must be reviewed and approved in strict accordance with this Article 9.



(iv) Accessory Structures. With the approval of the appropriate reviewing body, detached accessory structures may be placed on a Lot to be used for a playhouse, tool shed, dog house, garage or other approved use. A garage may also be an attached accessory structure. Such accessory structures shall conform in exterior design and quality to the dwelling on the Lot. With the exception of a garage that is attached to a dwelling and except as may be provided otherwise by the appropriate reviewing body, an accessory structure placed on a Lot shall be located only behind the dwelling as such dwelling fronts on the street abutting such Lot or in a location approved by the appropriate reviewing body. All accessory structures shall be located within side and rear setback lines as may be required by the appropriate reviewing body, or by applicable zoning law. Notwithstanding anything herein to the contrary, the appropriate reviewing body may, in its sole discretion, establish stricter or more restrictive standards than the applicable zoning law.

(v) Utility Lines. Overhead utility lines, including lines for cable television, are not permitted except for temporary lines as required during construction and lines installed by or at the request of Declarant.

(vi) Minimum Dwelling Size. A minimum square footage of enclosed, heated and cooled living space for residential dwellings, which minimum may vary from one Neighborhood to another, or which minimum may vary from one Lot to another, may be established in the Design Guidelines or in a Supplemental Declaration. Upon written request of an Owner, the appropriate reviewing body may waive the minimum square footage requirement if, in the reviewing body's sole discretion, the resulting appearance of such residential dwelling will preserve and conform to the overall appearance, scheme, design, value and quality within the Properties.

(vii) Fences and Hedges. All fences and hedges shall be installed in accordance with the Design Guidelines or as may be set forth in a Supplemental Declaration and, unless otherwise approved by the appropriate reviewing body, shall be located on or within the Lot property line.

9.5 Completion of Construction; Occupancy of Unfinished Lots. No dwelling erected upon any Lot shall be occupied in any manner while in the course of construction, or at any time prior to the dwelling being fully completed. After commencement of construction, each Owner shall diligently continue construction to complete such construction in a timely manner. With respect to construction of a residential dwelling, such construction shall be completed within one (1) year from commencement.

For the purposes of this Section, commencement of construction shall mean that (i) all plans for such construction have been approved by the ARB; (ii) a building permit has been issued for the Lot by the appropriate jurisdiction; and (iii) construction of a residential dwelling on the Lot has physically commenced beyond site preparation. Completion of a dwelling shall be deemed to have occurred upon "substantial completion." For the purposes of this Section, substantial completion shall be defined to be the date that the Declarant or ARB, as appropriate, certifies that the improvements are sufficiently complete in accordance with the Governing Documents and any other building specifications of the appropriate reviewing body as such may be established and amended from time to time and, with respect to initial construction, that the Owner may occupy the improvements for use as a single-family residential dwelling.

9.6 No Waiver of Future Approvals. Approval of proposals, plans and specifications, or drawings for any work done or proposed, or in connection with any other matter requiring approval, shall not be deemed to constitute a waiver of the right to withhold approval as to any similar proposals, plans and specifications, drawings, or other matters subsequently or additionally submitted for approval.

9.7 Variance. The Declarant or ARB may authorize variances from compliance with any of its guidelines and procedures when circumstances such as topography, natural obstructions, hardship, or aesthetic or environmental considerations or other reasons require, but only in accordance with duly adopted rules and regulations. Such variances may only be granted, however, when unique circumstances dictate and no variance shall (a) be effective unless in writing; (b) be contrary to this Declaration; or (c) prevent the Declarant or ARB from denying a variance in other circumstances. For purposes of this Section, the inability to obtain approval of any governmental agency, the issuance of any permit, or the terms of any financing shall not be considered a hardship warranting a variance.

9.8 Limitation of Liability. The criteria and requirements established by the ARB for approval of architects, Builders and contractors are solely for the Declarant's protection and benefit and are not intended to provide the Owner with any form of guarantee with respect to any approved architect, Builder or contractor. Owner's selection of an architect, Builder or contractor shall be conclusive evidence that the Owner is independently satisfied with any and all concerns Owner may have about the qualifications of such architect, Builder or contractor. Furthermore, Owner waives any and all claims and rights that Owner has or may have now or in the future, against the ARB or the Declarant. The standards and procedures established pursuant to this Article are intended to provide a mechanism for maintaining and enhancing the overall aesthetics of the Properties only, and shall not create any duty to any Person. Review and approval of any application pursuant to this Article is made on the basis of aesthetic considerations only and neither the ARB nor Declarant shall bear any responsibility for ensuring the structural integrity or soundness of approved construction or modifications, the adequacy of soils or drainage, or for ensuring compliance with building codes and other governmental requirements, or for ensuring that all dwellings are of comparable quality, value or size, of similar design, or aesthetically pleasing or otherwise acceptable to neighboring property Owners. Neither the Declarant, the Association, the Board, the ARB, nor any committee or member of any of the foregoing shall be held liable for any injury, damages, or loss arising out of the manner or quality of approved construction on or modifications to any Lot. In all matters, the committees and their members shall be defended and indemnified by the Association as provided in Section 4.6.

9.9 Enforcement. The Declarant, any member of the ARB or the Board, or the representatives of each, shall have the right, during reasonable hours and after reasonable notice, to enter upon any Lot to inspect for the purpose of ascertaining whether any structure or improvement is in violation of this Article. Any structure, improvement or landscaping placed or made in violation of this Article shall be deemed to be nonconforming. Upon written request from the Declarant or ARB, the Owners shall, at their own cost and expense, remove such structure or improvement and restore the property to substantially the same condition as existed prior to the nonconforming work. Should an Owner fail to remove and restore as required, any authorized agent of Declarant, the ARB or the Board shall have the right to enter the property, remove the violation, and restore the property to substantially the same condition as previously existed. Entry for such purposes and in compliance with this Section shall not constitute a trespass. In addition, the Board may enforce the decisions of the Declarant or the ARB by any means of enforcement described in Section 4.3. All costs, together with the interest at the maximum rate then allowed by law and attorneys' fees as allowed by the Act, may be assessed against the benefited Lot and collected as a Specific Assessment.

Unless otherwise specified in writing by the ARB or Declarant all approvals granted hereunder shall be deemed conditioned upon completion of all elements of the approved work and all work previously approved with respect to the same Lot, unless approval to modify any application has been obtained. In the event that any Person fails to commence and diligently pursue to completion all approved work, the Association shall be authorized, after notice to the Owner of the Lot and an opportunity to be heard in accordance with the By-Laws, to enter upon the Lot and remove or complete

any incomplete work and to assess all costs incurred against the Lot and the Owner thereof as a Specific Assessment.

Neither the ARB or any member of the foregoing, nor the Association, the Declarant, or their members, officers or directors, shall be held liable to any Person for exercising the rights granted by this Article. Any contractor, subcontractor, agent, employee, or other invitee of an Owner who fails to comply with the terms and provisions of this Article or the Design Guidelines may be excluded by the Declarant or the ARB from the Properties, subject to the notice and hearing procedures contained in the By-Laws.

In addition to the foregoing, the Association shall have the authority and standing to pursue all legal and equitable remedies available to enforce the provisions of this Article and the decisions of the ARB.

#### **Article 10. USE RESTRICTIONS**

10.1 General. This Article sets out certain use restrictions which must be complied with by all Owners and occupants of any Lot. The Properties shall be used only for residential, recreational, and related purposes (which may include, without limitation, model homes, sales offices for Builders, an information center and/or a sales office for any real estate broker retained by the Declarant to assist in the sale of property described on Exhibits "A" or "B", offices for any property manager retained by the Association, business offices for the Declarant or the Association or related parking facilities) consistent with this Declaration and any Supplemental Declaration.

10.2 Rules and Regulations. In addition to the use restrictions set forth in this Article, the Board may, from time to time, without consent of the Members, promulgate, modify or delete rules and regulations applicable to the Properties. Such rules shall be distributed to all Owners and occupants prior to the date that they are to become effective and shall thereafter be binding upon all Owners and occupants until and unless overruled, canceled, or modified in a regular or special meeting by a Majority of the Members, and, during the Development Period, the written consent of the Declarant.

10.3 Residential Use. All Lots may be used only for residential purposes of a single family and for ancillary business or home office uses. A business or home office shall be considered ancillary so long as: (a) the existence or operation of the activity is not apparent or detectable by sight, sound, or smell from outside the Lot; (b) the activity limits the number of employees on the premises to not more than (2) at any given time; provided, further, that there is reasonable parking to accommodate such employees; (c) the activity does not involve regular visitation of the Lot by clients, customers, suppliers, or other invitees or door-to-door solicitation of residents of the Properties; (d) the activity does not increase traffic or include frequent deliveries within the Properties; and (e) the activity is consistent with the residential character of the Properties and does not constitute a nuisance, or a hazardous or offensive use, or threaten the security or safety of other residents of the Properties, as may be determined in the sole discretion of the Board.

No real estate brokerage firms, real estate sales offices, or any other business directly or indirectly selling and/or managing real property or improvements shall be permitted within the Properties except with the Declarant's prior written approval which may be denied in Declarant's sole discretion. No other trade or business activity shall be conducted upon a Lot without the prior written approval of the Board. The terms "business" and "trade", as used in this provision, shall be construed to have their ordinary, generally accepted meanings and shall include, without limitation, any occupation, work or activity undertaken on an ongoing basis which involves the provision of goods or services to persons other than

the provider's family and for which the provider receives a fee, compensation, or other form of consideration, regardless of whether: (a) such activity is engaged in full or part-time, (b) such activity is intended to or does generate a profit, or (c) a license is required.

The leasing of a Lot shall not be considered a business or trade within the meaning of this Section. This Section shall not apply to any activity conducted by the Declarant or a Builder approved by the Declarant with respect to its development and sale of the Properties or its use of any Lots which it owns within the Properties.

#### 10.4 Vehicles.

(a) Automobiles and non-commercial trucks and vans shall be parked only in the garages or in the driveways, if any, serving the Lots unless otherwise approved by the ARB; provided, however, the Declarant and/or the Association may designate certain on-street parking areas for visitors or guests subject to reasonable rules. No automobile or non-commercial truck or van may be left upon any portion of the Properties, except in a garage, if it is unlicensed or if it is in a condition such that it is incapable of being operated upon the public highways. Such vehicle shall be considered a nuisance and may be removed from the Properties. No motorized vehicles shall be permitted on pathways or unpaved Common Area except for public safety vehicles authorized by the Board and vehicles used by the Association or the owner of a Private Amenity in maintenance of all or a portion of the Properties or Private Amenity or, with the prior written approval of the ARB, on other areas that are not visible from the street. The ARB shall also have authority, in its sole discretion, to require screening to reasonably limit the visibility of such recreation vehicles from neighboring Lots. "Visibility" shall be determined by the ARB in its sole discretion.

(b) Recreational vehicles shall be parked or stored only as set forth in the Design Guidelines. The term "recreational vehicles," as used herein, shall include, without limitation, motor homes, mobile homes, boats, jet skis or other watercraft, trailers, other towed vehicles, motorcycles, "all terrain" vehicles, minibikes, scooters, go-carts, golf carts, campers, buses, commercial trucks and commercial vans. Any recreational vehicle parked or stored in violation of this provision shall be considered a nuisance and may be removed from the Properties.

(c) Recreational vehicles may be operated on the streets within the Properties only by a licensed driver in accordance with Texas law.

(d) All vehicles shall be subject to such reasonable rules and regulations as the Board of Directors may adopt, including, without limitation, the right to limit the number of vehicles permitted on each Lot.

10.5 Leasing. Lots may be leased for residential purposes only. All leases shall require, without limitation, that the tenant acknowledge receipt of a copy of the Declaration, By-Laws, use restrictions, and rules and regulations of the Association. The lease shall also obligate the tenant to comply with the foregoing. The Board may require notice of any lease together with such additional information deemed necessary by the Board.

10.6 Occupants Bound. All provisions of the Declaration, By-Laws, and of any rules and regulations, use restrictions or Design Guidelines governing the conduct of Owners and establishing sanctions against Owners shall also apply to all occupants even though occupants are not specifically mentioned. Fines may be levied against Owners or occupants. If a fine is first levied against an occupant and is not paid timely, the fine may then be levied against the Owner.

10.7 Animals and Pets. No animals, livestock, or poultry of any kind may be raised, bred, kept, or permitted on any Lot, with the exception of dogs, cats or other usual and common household pets in reasonable number as determined by the Board, except as otherwise permitted by the Board within certain Neighborhoods or as may be set forth in a Supplemental Declaration pertaining to certain Neighborhoods. Animals and pets are subject to such other rules and regulations as may be established by the Board. The Owners of the pet shall be responsible for all of the pet's actions. Pets shall not be permitted within any Private Amenity except in compliance with conditions established by the owner of such Private Amenity. If, in the sole opinion of the Board, any animal becomes dangerous or an annoyance or nuisance in the Properties or to nearby property or destructive of wildlife, they shall be removed from the Properties. By way of explanation and not limitation, this Section may be enforced by exercising self-help rights provided in Section 4.3.

10.8 Nuisance. It shall be the responsibility of each Owner and occupant to prevent the development of any unclean, unhealthy, unsightly, or unkempt condition on his or her property. No property within the Properties shall be used, in whole or in part, for the storage of any property or thing that will cause such Lot to appear to be in an unclean or untidy condition or that will be obnoxious to the eye; nor shall any substance, thing, or material be kept that will emit foul or obnoxious odors or that will cause any noise or other condition that will or might disturb the peace, quiet, safety, comfort, or serenity of the occupants of surrounding property; all of which shall be determined by the Board, in its sole discretion.

Each Owner shall maintain its Lot in a neat and orderly condition throughout initial construction of a residential dwelling and not allow trash and debris from its activities to be carried by the wind or otherwise scattered within the Properties. Storage of construction materials on the Lot shall be subject to such conditions, rules, and regulations as may be set forth in the Design Guidelines. Each Owner shall keep roadways, easements, swales and other portions of the Properties clear of silt, construction materials and trash from its activities at all times. Trash and debris during initial construction of a residential dwelling shall be contained in standard size dumpsters or other appropriate trash receptacles and removed regularly from Lots and shall not be buried or covered on the Lot. Owners shall remove trash and debris from the Lot upon reasonable notice by Declarant in preparation for special events.

No noxious or offensive activity shall be carried on within the Properties, nor shall anything be done tending to cause embarrassment, discomfort, annoyance, or nuisance to any Person using any property within the Properties. There shall not be maintained any plants or animals or device or thing of any sort whose activities or existence in any way is noxious, dangerous, unsightly, unpleasant, or of a nature as may diminish or destroy the enjoyment of the Properties. Without limiting the generality of the foregoing, no speaker, horn, whistle, siren, bell, amplifier or other sound device, except such devices as may be used exclusively for security purposes or as approved by the ARB shall be located, installed or maintained upon the exterior of any structure on the Lot unless required by law. Any siren or device for security purposes shall contain a device or system which causes it to be shut off automatically.

The reasonable and normal development, construction and sales activities conducted or permitted by the Declarant shall not be considered a nuisance or a disturbance of the quiet enjoyment of any Owner or occupant.

10.9 Streams. No streams which run across any Lot may be dammed, or the water therefrom impounded, diverted or used for any purpose without the prior written consent of the Board, except that the Declarant shall have such rights as provided in Article 11.

10.10 Drainage and Grading. Catch basins and drainage areas are for the purpose of natural flow of water only. No obstructions or debris shall be placed in these areas. No Owner or occupant may obstruct or rechannel the drainage flows after location and installation of drainage swales, storm sewers or storm drains.

No Person shall alter the grading of any Lot without prior approval pursuant to Article 9 of this Declaration. No Person may fill in or pipe any roadside or lot-line swale, except as necessary to provide a minimum driveway crossing, nor may any Person pipe, fill in or alter any lot line swale used to meet Waller or Grimes County regulations. The Declarant hereby reserves for itself and the Association a perpetual easement across the Properties for the purpose of altering drainage and water flow. However, the exercise of such an easement shall not materially diminish the value of or unreasonably interfere with the use of any Lot without the Owner's consent.

All areas designated on a recorded plat as Jurisdictional Waters of the United States, now or in the future, and whether natural or manmade (including but not limited to headwaters, swales, creeks, gullies, bayous, or streams, located in the Saddle Creek Forest Subdivision) shall be known as "wetlands", and shall be generally left undisturbed and in a natural state. Any proposed alteration of the wetlands must be in accordance with any restrictions or covenants recorded against such property and be approved by all appropriate regulatory bodies. However, under no circumstances shall the wetlands be disturbed or impacted in violation of any permit issued by any governmental authority having jurisdiction, covering or affecting same, now or in the future. Prior to any alteration of a Tract, the Owner shall determine if any portion thereof meets the requirements for designation as a regulatory wetland. Notwithstanding anything contained herein, the Developer, the Association, and the successors, assigns, affiliates and designees of each may conduct such activities as have been or may be permitted by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (the "COE") or any successor thereof responsible for the regulation of wetlands.

10.11 Sight Distance at Intersections. No fence, wall, hedge, or shrub planting which obstructs sight lines at elevations between two feet (2') and six feet (6') above the roadways shall be placed or permitted to remain on any corner Lot within the triangular area formed by the street property lines and a line connecting them at points twenty-five feet (25') from the intersection of the street lines, or in the case of a rounded property corner, from the intersection of the street property lines extended. The same sight line limitations shall apply on any Lot within ten feet (10') from the intersection of a street property line with the edge of a driveway or alley pavement. No tree shall be permitted to remain within such distances of such intersection unless the foliage line is maintained at sufficient height to prevent obstruction of such sight lines.

10.12 Storage of Materials, Garbage, Dumping, etc. All garbage cans shall be located or screened so as to be concealed from view of neighboring streets and property. All rubbish, trash and garbage shall be placed in appropriate containers at a designated location as directed by the Board from time to time and regularly removed and shall not be allowed to accumulate. There shall be no dumping of grass clippings, leaves or other debris; rubbish, trash or garbage; petroleum products, fertilizers, or other potentially hazardous or toxic substances in any drainage ditch, stream, pond, or lake within the Properties, except that fertilizers may be applied to landscaping on Lots provided care is taken to minimize runoff. No hazardous materials shall be treated, deposited, stored, disposed of, or used in or on any Lot or the improvements thereon. "Hazardous materials" shall be defined as materials, substances,

gases, or vapors identified as hazardous, toxic or radioactive by any applicable federal, state or local laws, regulations or ordinances.

No lumber, metals, bulk materials, refuse, trash or other similar materials shall be kept, stored, or allowed to accumulate outside the buildings on any Lot, except during the initial construction period of the improvements to the Lot. In addition, during construction the building materials on any Lot shall be placed and kept in an orderly fashion. Any Lot on which construction is in progress shall be policed prior to each weekend and during the weekend all materials shall be neatly stacked or placed and any trash or waste materials shall be removed.

10.13 Subdivision of Lot. No Lot shall be subdivided or its boundary lines changed after a subdivision plat including such Lot has been approved and filed in the Public Records without the Declarant's written consent. Declarant, however, hereby expressly reserves the right to replat any Lot or Lots which it or any Builder owns, with the written prior consent of the owner of the Lot or Lots affected. Any such division, boundary line change, or replatting shall not be in violation of the applicable subdivision and zoning regulations, if any.

10.14 Guns. The discharge of firearms on the Properties is prohibited. The term "firearms" includes without limitation "B-B" guns, pellet guns, and firearms of all types. The Board may impose fines and exercise other enforcement remedies as set forth in this Declaration to enforce this restriction, but shall not be obligated to exercise self-help to prevent any such discharge.

10.15 Combustible Liquid. There shall be no storage of gasoline, propane, heating or other fuels, except for a reasonable amount of fuel that may be stored in containers appropriate for such purpose on each Lot for emergency purposes and for operation of lawn mowers and similar tools or equipment and except as may be approved in writing by the ARB or as provided for in the Design Guidelines. The Association shall be permitted to store fuel for operation of maintenance vehicles, generators and similar equipment.

10.16 Incidental Bodies of Water. The Association shall not be responsible for any loss, damage, or injury to any person or property arising out of the authorized or unauthorized use of lakes, ponds, or streams within or adjacent to the Properties. In addition, the Association shall not be responsible for maintaining, increasing or decreasing the water level within any lake or other water body or removing vegetation from any lake or other water body.

10.17 Irrigation Systems and Wells. Sprinkler or irrigation systems shall be installed only in accordance with the Design Guidelines. Declarant shall have the right to install sprinkler or irrigation systems or nonpotable wells within or abutting the Properties which draw upon ground water within the Properties, and the Declarant and the Association shall have the right to draw water from such source within the Properties.

#### **Article 11.** **EASEMENTS**

Declarant reserves, creates, establishes, promulgates, and declares the non-exclusive, perpetual easements set forth herein for the enjoyment of the Declarant, the Association, the Members, the Owners, and the owners of any Private Amenities, and their successors-in-title.

11.1 Easements of Encroachment. There shall be reciprocal appurtenant easements of encroachment, and for maintenance and use of any permitted encroachment, between adjacent Lots, between each Lot and any adjacent Common Area, and between each Lot and any adjacent Private

Amenity due to the unintentional placement or settling or shifting of the improvements constructed, reconstructed, or altered thereon (in accordance with the terms of these restrictions) to a distance of not more than three feet (3'), as measured from any point on the common boundary along a line perpendicular to such boundary. However, in no event shall an easement for encroachment exist if such encroachment occurred due to willful and knowing conduct on the part of, or with the knowledge and consent of, the Person claiming the benefit of such easement.

#### 11.2 Easements for Utilities, etc.

(a) There are hereby reserved to the Declarant during the Development Period, the Association, and the designees of each (which may include, without limitation, any governmental or quasi-governmental entity and any utility company) perpetual non-exclusive easements upon, across, over, and under all of the Properties to the extent reasonably necessary for the purpose of installing, constructing, monitoring, replacing, repairing, maintaining, operating and removing cable television systems, master television antenna systems, and other devices for sending or receiving data and/or other electronic signals; security and similar systems; roads, walkways, pathways and trails; lakes, ponds, wetlands, irrigation, and drainage systems; street lights and signage; and all utilities, including but not limited to, sewer telephone, gas and electricity, and utility meters; and an easement for access of vehicular and pedestrian traffic over, across and through the Properties, as necessary, to exercise the easements described above.

Declarant specifically grants to the local water supplier, sewer service provider, electric company, telephone company, cable company, and natural gas supplier the easements set forth herein across the Properties for ingress, egress, installation, reading, replacing, repairing, and maintaining utility lines, meters and boxes, as applicable.

(b) There is hereby reserved to the Declarant during the Development Period, the non-exclusive right and power to grant such specific easements as may be necessary, in the sole discretion of Declarant, in connection with the orderly development of any property described on Exhibits "A" or "B".

(c) Any damage to a Lot resulting from the exercise of the easements described in subsections (a) and (b) of this Section shall promptly be repaired by, and at the expense of, the Person exercising the easement. The exercise of these easements shall not extend to permitting entry into the structures on any Lot, nor shall it unreasonably interfere with the use of any Lot, and except in an emergency, entry onto any Lot shall be made only after reasonable notice to the Owner or occupant.

(d) Declarant reserves unto itself the right, in the exercise of its sole discretion, upon the request of any Person holding, or intending to hold, an interest in the Properties, or at any other time, (i) to release all or any portion of the Properties from the burden, effect, and encumbrance of any of the easements granted or reserved under this Section, or (ii) to define the limits of any such easements.

11.3 Easement for Slope Control, Drainage and Waterway Maintenance. The Declarant, for itself and the Association, and their respective representatives, successors and assigns, contractors and agents, hereby establishes and reserves a permanent and perpetual non-exclusive easement appurtenant over, across, under, through and upon each Lot for the purposes of:

(a) controlling soil erosion, including grading and planting with vegetation any areas of any Lot which are or may be subject to soil erosion;

(b) drainage of natural or man-made water flow and water areas from any portion of the Properties or any Private Amenity;



(c) changing, modifying or altering the natural flow of water, water courses or waterways on or adjacent to any Lot or Common Area;

(d) dredging, enlarging, reducing or maintaining any water areas or waterways within the Properties; and

(e) installing such pipes, lines, conduits or other equipment as may be necessary for slope control, drainage and waterway maintenance of any portion of the Properties or any Private Amenity.

11.4 Easements to Serve Additional Property. The Declarant hereby reserves for itself and its duly authorized agents, representatives, and employees, successors, assigns, licensees, and mortgagees, an easement over the Common Area for the purposes of enjoyment, use, access, and development of the Additional Property, whether or not such property is made subject to this Declaration. This easement includes, but is not limited to, a right of ingress and egress over the Common Area for construction of roads, for the posting of signs and for connecting and installing utilities serving the Additional Property. Declarant agrees that it and its successors or assigns shall be responsible for any damage caused to the Common Area as a result of vehicular traffic connected with development of the Additional Property.

11.5 Easement for Entry. The Association shall have the right, but not the obligation, and a perpetual easement is hereby granted to the Association, to enter all portions of the Properties, including each Lot, for emergency, security, and safety reasons. Such right may be exercised by the authorized agents, employees and managers of the Association, any member of its Board or committees, and its officers, and by all police officers, fire fighters, ambulance personnel, and similar emergency personnel in the performance of their duties. Except in emergencies, entry onto a Lot shall be only during reasonable hours and after notice to and permission from the Owner. This easement includes the right to enter any Lot to cure any condition which may increase the possibility of fire, slope erosion, immediate risk of personal injury, or other hazard if an Owner fails or refuses to cure the condition within a reasonable time after request by the Board, but shall not authorize entry into any dwelling without permission of the Owner, except by emergency personnel acting in their official capacities. Any entry by the Association or its authorized agents, employees or managers of the Association, any member of its Board or committees, or its officers onto a Lot for the purposes specified herein shall not constitute a trespass.

11.6 Easements for Maintenance and Enforcement. Authorized agents of the Association shall have the right, and a perpetual easement is hereby granted to the Association, to enter all portions of the Properties, including each Lot to (a) perform its maintenance responsibilities under Article 5, and (b) make inspections to ensure compliance with the Governing Documents. Except in emergencies, entry onto a Lot shall be only during reasonable hours. This easement shall be exercised with a minimum of interference to the quiet enjoyment to Owners' property, and any damage shall be repaired by the Association at its expense. Entry under this Section shall not constitute a trespass.

The Association also may enter a Lot to abate or remove, using such measures as may be reasonably necessary, any structure, thing or condition which violates the Governing Documents. All costs incurred, including reasonable attorneys' fees as allowed by the Act, may be assessed against the violator as a Specific Assessment.

11.7 Easements for Lake and Pond Maintenance and Flood Water. The Declarant reserves for itself and its successors, assigns, and designees the nonexclusive right and easement, but not the obligation, to enter upon the lakes, ponds, streams, and wetlands located within the Area of Common Responsibility to (a) install, keep, maintain, and replace pumps and irrigation systems in order to provide water for the irrigation of any of the Area of Common Responsibility or any Private Amenity; (b) construct, maintain, and repair any bulkhead, wall, dam or other structure retaining water; and (c) remove

trash and other debris therefrom and fulfill their maintenance responsibilities as provided in this Declaration. Declarant and its designees shall have an access easement over and across any of the Properties abutting or containing any portion of any pond, stream or wetland to the extent reasonably necessary to exercise their rights under this Section.

Declarant further reserves for itself and its successors, assigns and designees, a perpetual, nonexclusive right and easement of access and encroachment over the Common Area and Lots (but not the dwellings thereon) adjacent to or within twenty feet (20') of ponds, streams and wetlands in order to (a) temporarily flood and back water upon and maintain water over such portions of the Properties; (b) fill, drain, dredge, deepen, clean, fertilize, dye, and generally maintain the ponds, streams, and wetlands within the Area of Common Responsibility; (c) maintain and landscape the slopes and banks pertaining to such ponds, streams, and wetlands; and (d) enter upon and across such portions of the Properties for the purpose of exercising its rights under this Section. All persons entitled to exercise these easements shall use reasonable care in, and repair any damage resulting from the intentional exercise of such easements. Nothing herein shall be construed to make Declarant or any other Person liable for damage resulting from flooding due to heavy rainfall or other natural disasters.

Declarant reserves unto itself the right, in the exercise of its sole discretion, upon the request of any Person holding, or intending to hold, an interest in the Properties, or at any other time, (i) to release all or any portion of the Properties from the burden, effect, and encumbrance of any of the easements granted or reserved under this Section, or (ii) to define the limits of any such easements.

11.8 Lateral Support. Every portion of the Common Area, every Lot, and any improvement which contributes to the lateral support of another portion of the Common Area or of another Lot shall be burdened with an easement for lateral support, and each shall also have the right to lateral support which shall be appurtenant to and pass with title to such property.

11.9 Easements for Private Amenities.

(a) Under no circumstances shall any of the following Persons be held liable for any damage or injury resulting from any activity relating to any Private Amenity, including, but not limited to, the exercise of the easements set forth in this Section: the Declarant, or any successor Declarant; the Association or its Members (in their capacity as such); or any officer or director, member, manager or partner of any of the foregoing.

(b) The owner of any Private Amenity within or adjacent to any portion of the Properties, its agents, successors and assigns, shall at all times have a right and non-exclusive easement of access and use over those portions of the Common Area reasonably necessary to the operation, maintenance, repair and replacement of its Private Amenity.

(c) There is hereby established for the benefit of the Private Amenities and their members (regardless of whether such members are Owners hereunder), guests, invitees, employees, agents, contractors and designees, a right and nonexclusive easement of access and use over all roadways located within the Properties reasonably necessary to travel between the entrance to the Properties and the Private Amenities and over those portions of the Properties (whether Common Area or otherwise) reasonably necessary to the operation, maintenance, repair and replacement of the Private Amenities. Without limiting the generality of the foregoing, members of the Private Amenities and guests and invitees of the Private Amenities shall have the right to park their vehicles on the roadways located within the Properties at reasonable times before, during, and after special events, tournaments and other similar functions held by or at the Private Amenities.

(d) Any portion of the Properties immediately adjacent to the Private Amenities are hereby burdened with a non-exclusive easement in favor of the adjacent Private Amenities for over spray of water from the irrigation system serving the Private Amenities. Under no circumstances shall the Association or the owner(s) of the Private Amenities be held liable for any damage or injury resulting from such over spray or the exercise of this easement.

(e) The Declarant hereby reserves for itself, its successors and assigns, and may assign to the owner(s) of the Private Amenities, an easement and all rights to draw water from the lakes and ponds within or adjacent to the Properties for purposes of irrigation of the Private Amenities and for access to and the right to enter upon the lakes and ponds within or adjacent to the Properties, if any, for installation and maintenance of any irrigation systems.

(f) Any Private Amenity may include an extensive system of paths for use by pedestrians and maintenance vehicles. To the extent such paths are not located on the Private Amenity, Declarant hereby reserves a nonexclusive easement appurtenant to the Private Amenity on, over, under and across the Properties as reasonably necessary for the installation, maintenance, repair, replacement, reconstruction, use and enjoyment of such paths. The owner(s) of the Private Amenities shall be solely responsible for maintaining such paths at its sole cost and expense, including those portions which are located on a private street, a Lot, or Common Area. The aforesaid easements are reserved for the benefit of the owner(s) of the Private Amenities, and their respective members, guests, invitees, employees, contractors, agents and designees and shall be appurtenant to the Private Amenity.

11.10 Easement for Special Events. Declarant hereby reserves for itself, its successors, assigns and designees a perpetual, non-exclusive easement over the Common Area for the purpose of conducting educational, cultural, entertainment or sporting events, and other activities of general community interest at such locations and times as Declarant, in its sole discretion, deems appropriate. Each Owner, by accepting a deed or other instrument conveying any interest in a Lot, acknowledges and agrees that the exercise of this easement may result in a temporary increase in traffic, noise, gathering of crowds, and related inconveniences, and each Owner agrees on behalf of itself and the occupants of its Lot to take no action, legal or otherwise, which would interfere with the exercise of such easement or to recover damages for or as the result of any such activities.

11.11 Easement for Walking Trail Access. Declarant hereby grants to the Owners a perpetual, non-exclusive easement over and across any areas designated as "walking trails" or "paths" on any recorded subdivision plat of the Properties. Use of such walking trails or paths shall be governed by reasonable rules and regulations promulgated by the Association.

11.12 Rights to Stormwater Runoff, Effluent and Water Reclamation. Declarant hereby reserves for itself and its designees, including, but not limited to, the owner of any Private Amenity, all rights to ground water, surface water, storm water runoff, and effluent located or produced within the Properties, and each Owner agrees, by acceptance of a deed to a Lot, that Declarant shall retain all such rights. Such right shall include an easement over the Properties for access, and for installation and maintenance of facilities and equipment to capture and transport such water, runoff and effluent.

11.13 Liability for Use of Easements. No Owner shall have a claim or cause of action against the Declarant, its successors or assigns, including without limitation the owner(s) of any Private Amenities, arising out of the exercise or non-exercise of any easement reserved hereunder or shown on any subdivision plat for the Properties, except in cases of willful or wanton misconduct.

**Article 12.**  
**MORTGAGEE PROVISIONS**

The following provisions are for the benefit of holders, insurers and guarantors of first Mortgages on Lots in the Properties. The provisions of this Article apply to both this Declaration and to the By-Laws, notwithstanding any other provisions contained therein.

12.1 Notices of Action. An institutional holder, insurer, or guarantor of a first Mortgage who provides a written request to the Association (such request to state the name and address of such holder, insurer, or guarantor and the street address of the Lot to which its Mortgage relates, thereby becoming an "Eligible Holder"), will be entitled to timely written notice of:

(a) Any condemnation loss or any casualty loss which affects a material portion of the Properties or which affects any Lot on which there is a first Mortgage held, insured or guaranteed by such Eligible Holder;

(b) Any delinquency in the payment of assessments or charges owed by a Lot subject to the Mortgage of such Eligible Holder, where such delinquency has continued for a period of sixty (60) Days or any other violation of the Declaration or By-Laws relating to such Lot or the Owner or Occupant which is not cured within sixty (60) Days;

(c) Any lapse, cancellation or material modification of any insurance policy maintained by the Association; or

(d) Any proposed action which would require the consent of a specified percentage of Eligible Holders pursuant to Federal Home Loan Mortgage Corporation requirements.

12.2 No Priority. No provision of this Declaration or the By-Laws gives or shall be construed as giving any Owner or other party priority over any rights of the first Mortgagee of any Lot in the case of distribution to such Owner of insurance proceeds or condemnation awards for losses to or a taking of the Common Area.

12.3 Notice to Association. Upon request, each Owner shall be obligated to furnish to the Association the name and address of the holder of any Mortgage encumbering such Owner's Lot.

12.4 Failure of Mortgagee to Respond. Any Mortgagee who receives a written request from the Board to respond to or consent to any action shall be deemed to have approved such action if the Association does not receive a written response from the Mortgagee within thirty (30) Days of the date of the Association's request, provided such request is delivered to the Mortgagee by certified or registered mail, return receipt requested.

12.5 Construction. Nothing contained in this Article shall be construed to reduce the percentage vote that must otherwise be obtained under the Declaration, By-Laws, or Texas law for any of the acts set out in this Article.

**Article 13.**  
**DECLARANT'S RIGHTS**

13.1 Transfer or Assignment. Any or all of the special rights and obligations of the Declarant set forth in the Governing Documents may be transferred or assigned in whole or in part to the Association or to other Persons, provided that the transfer shall not reduce an obligation nor enlarge a

right beyond that which the Declarant has under this Declaration or the By-Laws. Upon any such transfer, the Declarant shall be automatically released from any and all liability arising with respect to such transferred rights and obligations. No such transfer or assignment shall be effective unless it is in a written instrument signed by the Declarant and duly recorded in the Public Records.

13.2 Development and Sales. The Declarant and Builders authorized by Declarant may maintain and carry on the Properties such activities as, in the sole opinion of the Declarant, may be reasonably required, convenient or incidental to the development of the Properties and/or the construction or sale of Lots or homes, such as sales activities, tournaments, charitable events and promotional events, and restrict Members from using the Common Area during such activities. Such activities shall be conducted in a manner to minimize (to the extent reasonably possible) any substantial interference with the Members' use and enjoyment of the Common Area. In the event that any such activity necessitates exclusion of Owners from Common Areas, such activities shall not exceed seven (7) consecutive Days. The Declarant and authorized Builders shall have easements over the Properties for access, ingress and conducting such activities.

In addition, the Declarant and Builders authorized by Declarant may establish within the Properties, such facilities as, in the sole opinion of the Declarant, may be reasonably required, convenient or incidental to the development of the Properties and/or the construction or sale of Lots or homes, including, but not limited to, business offices, signs, model homes, tents, sales offices, sales centers and related parking facilities. During the Development Period, Owners may be excluded from use of all or a portion of such facilities in the Declarant's sole discretion. The Declarant and authorized Builders shall have easements over the Properties for access, ingress and egress and use of such facilities.

Declarant may permit the use of any facilities situated on the Common Area by Persons other than Owners without the payment of any use fees.

13.3 Improvements to Common Areas. The Declarant and its employees, agents and designees shall also have a right and easement over and upon all of the Common Area for the purpose of making, constructing and installing such improvements to the Common Area as it deems appropriate in its sole discretion.

13.4 Additional Covenants. No Person shall record any declaration of covenants, conditions and restrictions, declaration of condominium, easements or similar instrument affecting any portion of the Properties without Declarant's review and written consent. Any attempted recordation without such consent shall result in such instrument being void and of no force and effect unless subsequently approved by written consent signed by the Declarant and recorded in the Public Records. No such instrument recorded by any Person, other than the Declarant pursuant to Section 7.4, may conflict with the Declaration, By-Laws or Articles.

13.5 Amendments. Notwithstanding any contrary provision of this Declaration, no amendment to or modification of any use restrictions and rules or Design Guidelines made after termination of the Class "B" Control Period shall be effective without prior notice to and the written consent of the Declarant, during the Development Period. This Article may not be amended without the written consent of the Declarant. The rights contained in this Article shall terminate upon the earlier of (a) twenty (20) years from the date this Declaration is recorded, or (b) upon recording by Declarant of a written statement that all sales activity has ceased.

**Article 14.**  
**PRIVATE AMENITIES**

14.1 General. Private Amenities shall not be a portion of the Common Area, and neither membership in the Association nor ownership or occupancy of a Lot shall confer any ownership interest in or right to use any Private Amenity. Rights to use the Private Amenities will be granted only to such persons, and on such terms and conditions, as may be determined from time to time by the respective owners of the Private Amenities. The owners of the Private Amenities shall have the right, from time to time in their sole and absolute discretion and without notice, to amend or waive the terms and conditions of use of their respective Private Amenities, including, without limitation, eligibility for and duration of use rights, categories of use, extent of use privileges, and number of users, and to require the payment of a purchase price, membership contribution, initiation fee, membership deposit, dues, use charges and other charges for use privileges and to change, eliminate or lease operation of any or all facilities; and to reserve use rights and to terminate use rights altogether, subject to the terms of any written agreements.

14.2 Conveyance of Private Amenities. All Persons, including all Owners, are hereby advised that no representations or warranties have been or are made by the Declarant, the Association, any Builder or by any Person acting on behalf of any of the foregoing, with regard to the continuing ownership or operation of any Private Amenity, and no purported representation or warranty in such regard, either written or oral, shall be effective unless specifically set forth in a written instrument executed by the record owner of the Private Amenity. Further, the ownership or operation of the Private Amenities may change at any time by virtue of, but without limitation, (a) the sale to or assumption of operations of any Private Amenity by a Person other than the current owner or operator; or (b) the conveyance of any Private Amenity to one (1) or more affiliates, shareholders, employees or independent contractors of the Declarant. No consent of the Association, any Neighborhood Association, any Voting Delegate, or any Owner shall be required to effectuate any change in ownership or operation of any Private Amenity, for or without consideration and subject to or free of any mortgage, covenant, lien or other encumbrance.

14.3 View Impairment. Neither the Declarant, the Association nor the owner of any Private Amenity, guarantees or represents that any view over and across any Private Amenity, the Common Area or any public facilities from Lots will be preserved without impairment. The owners of such property, shall have no obligation to prune or thin trees or other landscaping, and shall have the right, in their sole and absolute discretion, to add trees and other landscaping or to install improvements or barriers (both natural and artificial) to the Private Amenities, the Common Area or the public facilities from time to time.

14.4 Cost Sharing Agreements. The Association may enter into a Cost Sharing Agreement with any Private Amenity obligating the Private Amenity or the Association to contribute funds for, among other things, shared property or services and/or a higher level of Common Area maintenance.

14.5 Architectural Control. Neither the Association, nor any committee thereof, shall approve or permit any construction, addition, alteration, change or installation on or to any portion of the Properties which is contiguous to or within one hundred feet (100') of any Private Amenity without giving the owner of such Private Amenity at least fifteen (15) Days prior written notice of its intent to approve or permit the same together with copies of the request and all other documents and information finally submitted in such regard. The owner of such Private Amenity shall then have fifteen (15) Days to approve or disapprove the proposal in writing delivered to the appropriate committee or Association, stating in detail the reasons for any disapproval. The failure of the owner of such Private Amenity to respond to the notice within the fifteen (15) Day period shall constitute a waiver of the owner of such Private Amenity's right to object to the matter. If in the reasonable opinion of the owner of the Private Amenity whether by restriction of view, hazards to person or otherwise, the requesting party shall

resubmit to the ARB the proposed construction or modification so as to take into account the objection of the Private Amenity, and the review and approval process set forth in this Section shall apply to the resubmitted plans and specifications. This Section shall also apply to any work on the Common Area contiguous to the Private Amenity.

14.6. Use Restrictions. Upon request of the owner of any Private Amenity, the Association shall enforce its use restrictions and rules against any Owner or occupant violating such regulations within such Private Amenity, including but not limited to the exercise of the Association's self-help rights for violation of sign and pet restrictions.

14.7. Limitations on Amendments. In recognition of the fact that the provisions of this Article are for the benefit of the Private Amenity, no amendment to this Article, and no amendment in derogation of any other provisions of this Declaration benefiting any Private Amenity, may be made without the written approval of the owner(s) of the affected Private Amenity. The foregoing shall not apply, however, to amendments made by the Declarant.

14.8. Jurisdiction and Cooperation. It is Declarant's intention that the Association and the Private Amenities shall cooperate to the maximum extent possible in the operation of the Properties and any Private Amenities. Each shall reasonably assist the other in upholding the Community-Wide Standard as it pertains to maintenance and the Design Guidelines. The Association shall have no power to promulgate rules or regulations affecting activities on or use of the Private Amenities without the prior written consent of the owners of the Private Amenities affected thereby.

## **Article 15.**

### **GENERAL PROVISIONS**

#### 15.1 Duration.

(a) Unless terminated as provided in Section 15.1(b), this Declaration shall run with the land and shall be binding on all parties and Persons claiming under them for a period of twenty (20) years from the date this Declaration is recorded. This Declaration shall automatically be extended at the expiration of such period for successive periods of ten (10) years each, unless terminated as provided herein. Notwithstanding the above, if any of the covenants, conditions, restrictions or other provisions of this Declaration shall be unlawful, void, or voidable for violation of the rule against perpetuities, then such provisions shall continue only until twenty-one (21) years after the death of the last survivor of the now living descendants of Elizabeth II, Queen of England.

(b) Unless otherwise provided by Texas law, in which case such law shall control, this Declaration may not be terminated within twenty (20) years of the date of recording without the consent of all Owners. Thereafter, it may be terminated only by an instrument signed by Owners of at least seventy-five percent (75%) of the total Lots within the Properties and by the Declarant, if the Declarant owns any portion of the Properties, which instrument is recorded in the Public Records. Nothing in this Section shall be construed to permit termination of any easement created in this Declaration without the consent of the holder of such easement.

#### 15.2 Amendment.

(a) By Declarant. Until termination of the Class "B" membership, the Declarant may unilaterally amend this Declaration for any purpose. Thereafter, the Declarant may unilaterally amend this Declaration at any time and from time to time if such amendment is necessary (i) to bring any provision into compliance with any applicable governmental statute, rule, regulation, or judicial

determination; (ii) to enable any reputable title insurance company to issue title insurance coverage on the Lots; (iii) to enable any institutional or governmental lender, purchaser, insurer or guarantor of Mortgage loans, including, for example, the Federal National Mortgage Association or Federal Home Loan Mortgage Corporation, to make, purchase, insure or guarantee Mortgage loans on the Lots; or (iv) to satisfy the requirements of any local, state or federal governmental agency. However, any such amendment shall not adversely affect the title to any Lot unless the Owner shall consent in writing. In addition, so long as the Declarant owns property which is subject to this Declaration or which may be unilaterally subjected to the Declaration by the Declarant, it may unilaterally amend this Declaration for any other purpose, provided the amendment has no material adverse effect upon any right of any Owner.

(b) By Members. Except as otherwise specifically provided above and elsewhere in this Declaration, this Declaration may be amended only by the affirmative vote or written consent, or any combination thereof, of Voting Delegates representing sixty-seven percent (67%) of the total Class "A" votes in the Association, including sixty-seven percent (67%) of the Class "A" votes held by Members other than the Declarant and, during the Development Period, with the written consent of the Declarant.

Notwithstanding the above, the percentage of votes necessary to amend a specific clause shall not be less than the prescribed percentage of affirmative votes required for action to be taken under that clause.

(c) Validity and Effective Date. Any amendment to the Declaration shall become effective upon recordation in the Public Records, unless a later effective date is specified in the amendment. Any procedural challenge to an amendment must be made within one (1) year of its recordation or such amendment shall be presumed to have been validly adopted. In no event shall a change of conditions or circumstances operate to amend any provisions of this Declaration. No amendment may remove, revoke, or modify any right or privilege of the Declarant or the Class "B" Member without the written consent of the Declarant, the Class "B" Member or the assignee of such right or privilege.

If an Owner consents to any amendment to this Declaration or the By-Laws, it will be conclusively presumed that such Owner has the authority to consent, and no contrary provision in any Mortgage or contract between the Owner and a third party will affect the validity of such amendment.

15.3 Severability. Invalidation of any provision of this Declaration, in whole or in part, or any application of a provision of this Declaration by judgment or court order shall in no way affect other provisions or applications.

15.4 Dispute Resolution. It is the intent of the Association and the Declarant to encourage the amicable resolution of disputes involving the Properties and to avoid the emotional and financial costs of litigation if at all possible. Accordingly, the Association, the Declarant and each Owner covenants and agrees that it shall attempt to resolve all claims, grievances or disputes involving the Properties, including, without limitation, claims, grievances or disputes arising out of or relating to the interpretation, application or enforcement of this Declaration, the By-Laws, the Association rules or the Articles through alternative dispute resolution methods, such as mediation and arbitration. To foster the amicable resolution of disputes, the Board may adopt alternative dispute resolution procedures.

Participation in alternative dispute resolution procedures shall be voluntary and confidential. Should either party conclude that such discussions have become unproductive or unwarranted, then the parties may proceed with litigation subject to any limitations set forth elsewhere herein and in the By-Laws.



15.5 Non-Merger. Notwithstanding the fact that Declarant is the current owner of the Properties, it is the express intention of Declarant that the easements established in the Declaration for the benefit of the Properties and Owners shall not merge into the fee simple estate of individual lots conveyed by Declarant or its successor, but that the estates of the Declarant and individual lot Owners shall remain as separate and distinct estates. Any conveyance of all or a portion of the Properties shall be subject to the terms and provisions of this Declaration, regardless of whether the instrument of conveyance refers to this Declaration.

15.6 Grants. The parties hereby declare that this Declaration, and the easements created herein shall be and constitute covenants running with the fee simple estate of the Properties. The grants and reservations of easements in this Declaration are independent of any covenants and contractual agreements undertaken by the parties in this Declaration and a breach by either party of any such covenants or contractual agreements shall not cause or result in a forfeiture or reversion of the easements granted or reserved in this Declaration.

15.7 Cumulative Effect; Conflict. The provisions of this Declaration shall be cumulative with any additional covenants, restrictions, and declarations applicable to any Neighborhood, and the Association may, but shall not be required to, enforce the additional covenants, conditions, and provisions applicable to any Neighborhood; provided, however, in the event of a conflict between or among this Declaration and such covenants or restrictions, and/or the provisions of any articles of incorporation, By-Laws, rules and regulations, policies, or practices adopted or carried out pursuant thereto, this Declaration, the By-Laws, Articles and use restrictions and rules of the Association shall prevail over those of any Neighborhood. The foregoing priorities shall apply, but not be limited to, the lien for assessments created in favor of the Association. Nothing in this Section shall preclude any Supplemental Declaration or other recorded declaration, covenants and restrictions applicable to any portion of the Properties from containing additional restrictions or provisions which are more restrictive than the provisions of this Declaration, and the Association shall have the standing and authority to enforce the same.

15.8 Use of the Term "Saddle Creek Forest". No Person shall use the term "Saddle Creek Forest" or any logo of Saddle Creek Forest or any derivative in any printed or promotional material without the Declarant's prior written consent. However, Owners may use the term "Saddle Creek Forest" in printed or promotional matter where such term is used solely to specify that particular property is located within Saddle Creek Forest and the Association and any other community association located in Saddle Creek Forest shall be entitled to use the term "Saddle Creek Forest" in its name.

15.9 Compliance. Every Owner and occupant of any Lot shall comply with the Governing Documents. Failure to comply shall be grounds for an action by the Association or by any aggrieved Owner(s) to recover sums due, for damages or injunctive relief, or for any other remedy available at law or in equity, in addition to those enforcement powers granted to the Association in Section 4.3.

15.10 Exhibits. Exhibits "A and "B" attached to this Declaration are incorporated by this reference and amendment of such exhibits shall be governed by the provisions of this Declaration.

[EXECUTIONS BEGIN ON FOLLOWING PAGE]

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the undersigned Declarant has executed this Declaration this 1st day of August, 2005.

DECLARANT:

Bluegreen Southwest One, L.P.,  
a Delaware limited partnership

By: Bluegreen Southwest Land, Inc., a Delaware  
Corporation, its general partner

By:

Title: Vice President, Bluegreen Southwest Land, Inc.

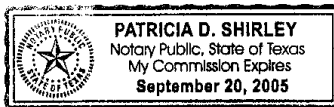
STATE OF TEXAS

COUNTY OF HAYS

This instrument was acknowledged before me on the 1st day of August, 2005, by Jack Dean, Vice President of Bluegreen Southwest Land, Inc., a Delaware corporation, the general partner of Bluegreen Southwest One, L.P., a Delaware limited partnership, on behalf of said corporation.

Patricia D. Shirley  
Notary Public, State of Texas

Commission Expiration Date:



VOL 0910 PAGE 185

EXHIBIT "A"

Land Initially Submitted to this Declaration

ALL THOSE TRACTS or parcel of land, together with the improvements and appurtenances belonging thereto, lying and being in Waller County, Texas, as shown on a plat for survey made by Vogt Engineering Group, dated JUNE 2005, a copy of which plat was recorded UNDER CLERK'S FILE #505913 on AUGUST 9, 2005, in the real property records of Waller County, Texas in Book Volume 505, Page(s) 933, and to which plat reference is hereby made for a more particular description of said land.

Exhibit "A"

VOL 0910 PAGE 185

EXHIBIT "B"

Land Subject to Annexation

Any property located within a five (5) mile radius of the perimeter boundary of the land described on Exhibit "A" of this Declaration.

Exhibit "A"

Filed for Record

Aug. 10

A.D., 2005 at 2:39 o'clock P. M.

RECORDED

Aug. 12

A.D., 2005 at 11:20 o'clock A. M.

CHERYL PETERS, County Clerk, Waller County, Texas

By Stephanie Thompson Deputy