# COTTAGES AT CRESCENT PARK HOMEOWNERS ASSOCIATION DOCUMENT RETENTION AND DESTRUCTION POLICY

SUBJECT:

Document Retention and Destruction

**PURPOSE:** 

To adopt a Document Retention and Destruction Policy

**AUTHORITY:** 

The Declaration, Articles of Incorporation and Bylaws of the Association and

Colorado law.

**EFFECTIVE** 

DATE:

5/16/2013

**RESOLUTION:** 

The Association hereby adopts the following policy and procedure for the retention and destruction of official Association documents.

SECTION 1
Introduction

### 1.1 Scope

This Document Retention and Destruction Policy applies to the Cottages at Crescent Park Homeowners Association (hereinafter the "Association"), the Association Manager, and the Association's Board of Directors.

The documents maintained by the Association's legal counsel are not subject to this Document Retention and Destruction Policy.

### 1.2 Purpose

This Document Retention and Destruction Policy is created to establish guidelines for identifying, retaining, storing, protecting and disposing of the Association's Documents (the "Documents"). This Document Retention and Destruction Policy is necessary to ensure that the Association conducts itself in a cost-effective manner while also adhering to legal and business requirements.

### 1.3 Policy

A. It is the Association's policy to maintain complete, accurate and high quality Documents. Documents are to be retained for the period of their immediate use unless longer retention is required for historical reference, contractual or legal requirements, or for other purposes as set forth in this Document Retention and Destruction Policy.

- B. Documents that are no longer required or have satisfied their recommended period of retention are to be destroyed in an appropriate manner.
- C. The Association Manager is responsible for ensuring that Documents within his or her area of assigned responsibility are identified, retained, stored, protected and subsequently disposed of, in accordance with the guidelines set forth in this Document Retention and Destruction Policy.

### 1.4 Compliance

This Document Retention and Destruction Policy is not intended to be all inclusive, and accordingly must be tailored to meet the specific needs of the Association. The retention periods set forth herein are guidelines based on the current retention periods set forth in federal, state, and local statutes and regulations (none of which explicitly address the Association), and industry custom and practice.

### 1.5 Board Members

The Association does not require Board Members to maintain any Documents. Board Members in their discretion may dispose of Documents generated by the Association because the Association has maintained such Documents in the Official Files. However, if Board Members receive Documents relating to the Association, which were not generated by the Association, or not received through the Association, Board Members shall send the originals of such Documents to the Association Manager to be maintained in the Official Files. Documents created by Board members for their own use as a member of the Board of Directors, including but not limited to notes, drafts, emails, summaries, etc. are not Documents of the Association and should be destroyed by the Board Member once an Association Document is produced or within six months of creation, whichever is sooner, unless otherwise provided herein. E-mail discussions among Board members shall be copied to and saved by the Association's manager pursuant to this policy. No Board Member shall disclose or provide any Document to any owner outside of the Board of Directors. Directors shall direct Owners to make a formal request to the Association pursuant to its inspection of records policy.

### 1.6 Annual Purge of Files

The Association Manager shall conduct an annual purge of files. The annual purge of files shall be completed within the first quarter of each calendar year.

#### 1.7 Destruction Procedure

All Documents to be purged or destroyed pursuant to this Document Retention and Destruction Policy shall be shredded, or permanently deleted electronically, if stored in an electronic format.

### 1.8 Certification

Following the annual purge of files, the Association Manager shall complete a Certification Letter directed to the Association's Board of Directors stating that all Documents under his or her control conform to the retention guidelines. Each Board Member shall complete a Certification Letter annually stating that all documents created by him/her have been destroyed pursuant to Paragraph 1.5.

### 1.9 Miscellaneous

There may be an immediate destruction of copies of any Document, regardless of age, provided that an original is maintained in the Official Files of the Association.

### 1.10 Onset of Litigation

At such time as the Board or the Association has been served with a lawsuit, or if it is reasonably foreseeable that litigation may be imminent, all Documents potentially relevant to the dispute must be preserved notwithstanding anything in this policy to the contrary.

Therefore, at the direction of legal counsel the Association Manager will advise the Board Members, and any other person who may maintain Association Documents, of the facts relating to litigation. Thereafter, all Documents potentially relevant to the dispute shall be deemed "held" until such litigation is concluded and all appeal periods have expired. At the conclusion of the litigation the "hold" period will cease and the time periods provided in the Document Retention and Destruction Guidelines will recommence.

SECTION 2
Definitions

#### 2.1 Current

Current means the calendar year in which the Document was created, obtained or received.

#### 2.2 Document

Document means any documentary material that is generated or received by the Association in connection with transacting its business, is related to the Association's legal obligations, and is retained for any period of time. The term "Document" includes, among others, writings, drawings, graphs, charts, photographs, tape, disc, audio recordings, microforms, and other electronic documents from which information can be obtained or translated such as electronic mail, voice mail, floppy disks, hard discs and CD ROM. The Documents, as defined in this policy, may encompass more records than those which are available for inspection by Owners pursuant to the Association's Inspection of Records Policy. Not all Documents may be records of the Association as that term is defined in the Inspection of Records Policy and Colorado law, and therefore may not be subject to inspection by Owners.

### 2.3 Association Manager

Association Manager means the Manager of the Association.

#### 2.4 Official Files

"Official Files" means the files maintained by the Association Manager of the Association.

Legal documents and documents subject to the attorney-client privilege and the work product privilege maintained by the Association's legal counsel are not part of the "Official Files" of the Association.

### 2.5 Permanent

Permanent means that the retention period for that Document is permanent.

#### 2.6 Termination

"Term + 4 years" means four years beyond the termination of the relationship, contract or coverage.

#### SECTION 3

Document Retention and Destruction Guidelines

The Association's Documents are grouped into five functional categories as set forth below. Although every conceivable Document is not listed, the following list should indicate to which subcategory a particular Document relates.

1.	Accounting Records	Retention Period
	Accounts Payable	7 years
	Account Receivable	7 years

Audit Reports Permanent

Chart of Accounts Permanent

Depreciation Schedules Permanent

Expense Records 7 years

Financial Statements (Annual) Permanent

Fixed Asset Purchases Permanent

General Ledger Permanent

Inventory Records 7 years

Loan Payment Schedule 7 years

Federal and State
Tax Returns
Permanent

2. Bank/Financial Records Retention Period

Bank Reconciliation 2 years

Bank Statements 7 years

Deposit Tickets 6 years

Cancelled Checks 7 years

Cash Receipts and Cash
Disbursement Journals 7 years

Owner Ledgers While owner

owns a home in

the community + 7 years

Electronic Payment Records 7 years

Audit Reports Permanent

Personal Property Tax Returns Permanent

Budgets 1 year

Reserve Study

Retain current plan at all times

3. Corporate Records

**Retention Period** 

**Board Minutes** 

Permanent

**Committee Minutes** 

Permanent

**Member Meeting Minutes** 

Permanent

Bylaws, Articles and CC& R's

Permanent

Rules and Regulations

Permanent

Policies and Guidelines

Permanent

Record of Board of Directors or Members without a Meeting (for example, records of decisions made

by the Board via e-mail)

Permanent

E-mail communications among Board members directly related to and resulting in a decision made by the Board outside of a meeting.

1 year

General e-mail discussions among the Board which do not result in

any decision being made outside of a meeting

6 months

Record of Waivers of Notices of Meetings of Members, Board of Directors or Committees

Permanent

**Board Resolutions** 

Permanent

**Business Licenses** 

Permanent

Contracts

Term +7 years or warranty period

if longer

Correspondence from Legal

Counsel

Permanent

**Insurance Policies** 

Term + 4 years

Permanent Leases/Mortgages Permanent Patents/Trademarks Permanent Bids, Proposals Permanent Homeowner Records 7 years Vendor Invoices Written Correspondence between 7 years Association and Vendors **Photographs** 7 years Periodic Reports Filed with the 1 year Secretary of State Videotapes and Audiotapes of Until minutes **Board Meetings** approved Proxies and Ballots (generally) 1 year after (unless otherwise provided herein) meeting Proxies and Ballots for Document Permanently Amendments Deeds, Easements and Other Permanently Real Property Records Retention Period Employee Records, if any Permanent Benefits Plans 7 years Personnel Files **Employment Applications** 3 years 7 years **Employment Taxes** 7 years Payroll Records Permanent Pension/Profit Sharing Plans Retention Period

4.

5.

Real Estate Records

Permanent Construction Records Permanent Warranties Permanent Leasehold Improvements Term + 4 years Lease Payment Records Permanent Real Estate Purchases **Owner Communications Retention Period** 6. Written Communications to all Owners generally (including meeting or other notices sent via e-mail, facsimile and regular 6 years mail) Individual Member Files 7. Correspondence to Members As long as individually (not including enforcement Member owns +4 years letters) Enforcement Letters (including As long as covenant violation letters and Member owns violation letters and delinquency +4 years letters) As long as Owner Complaints (written) Member owns +4 years Architectural requests and any responses from the Association Permanently regarding Requests As long as Any Correspondence between Member owns Association and Members not +4 years otherwise listed Miscellaneous 8. Miscellaneous Documents At Board's (not otherwise listed herein)

discretion

## PRESIDENT'S CERTIFICATION:

The undersigned, being the President of the Association certifies that the foregoing Resolution was approved and adopted by the Board of Directors of the Association, at a duly called and held meeting of the Board of Directors of the Association on 5-7-2013 and in witness thereof, the undersigned has subscribed his name.

COTTAGES AT CRESCENT PARK HOMEOWNERS ASSOCIATION, a Colorado non-profit corporation,

Linda K. Kill
President