

**RECORDS RETENTION POLICY**  
*for*  
**SHERWOOD-ELM GROVE TRAIL ASSOCIATION**

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THE STATE OF TEXAS           §  
  §  
COUNTY OF HARRIS           §

I, Steve Hester, President of Sherwood-Elm Grove Trail Association (the "Association"), do hereby certify that at a meeting of the Board of Directors of the Association (the "Board") duly called and held on the 10<sup>th</sup> day of November, 2011, with at least a quorum of the Board members being present and remaining throughout, and being duly authorized to transact business, the following Records Retention Policy was duly approved by a majority vote of the members of the Board:

**RECITALS:**

1. Chapter 209 of the Texas Property Code was amended to add Section 209.005(m) requiring property owners' associations to adopt a records retention policy and to set forth minimum retention periods for particular types of documents.
2. The new law became effective on January 1, 2012.
3. The Board of Directors of the Association desires to adopt a records retention policy consistent with the new law.

**POLICY:**

It is the policy of the Association to retain the records of the Association listed below for the periods of time set forth below. The Association is not required to retain any other records. As used herein, "records" means documents originated or obtained by the Association in connection with its operations, whether a paper document or a document in electronic form.

**1. Retention Periods.**

<b>Record Description</b>	<b>Record Retention Period</b>
a) Financial records (including budgets, financial reports, bank records, and paid invoices)	Seven (7) years
b) Account records (including records relating to assessments and other sums owed and paid to the Association and records relating to violations of any dedicatory instrument of the Association) of current owners	Five (5) years

c) Account records (including records relating to assessments and other sums owed and paid to the Association and records relating to violations of any dedicatory instrument of the Association) of former owners	One (1) year after the former owner ceases to own a lot in the subdivision
d) Contracts	Four (4) years after expiration or termination of the contract
e) Minutes of meetings of the Board of Directors	Seven (7) years
f) Minutes of meetings of the members	Seven (7) years
g) Federal tax returns	Seven (7) years
h) State tax returns, if any	Seven (7) years
i) Audit reports	Seven (7) years
j) Certificate of Formation and Bylaws of the Association and all amendments; Declaration of Covenants, Conditions and Restrictions and all amendments and supplements to the Declaration of Covenants, Conditions and Restrictions; annexation documents; and deeds conveying real property to the Association	Permanently
k) Other dedicatory instruments of the Association not listed in (j), above, including, without limitation, Architectural Guidelines, Rules and Regulations and Policies	One (1) year after the date the document is rescinded or superseded by another document
l) Minutes and reports of committees	Seven (7) years
m) Insurance policies	Four (4) years after expiration or termination of the policy
n) Insurance claims and related documents	Four (4) years after the claim is resolved
o) Personnel records, excluding payroll records	Permanently
p) Payroll records	Five (5) years after the date of termination of employment
q) Reserve study	For the period of time covered by the study, plus two (2) years
r) Legal opinions issued by counsel for the Association	Permanently

s) Suit files	Seven (7) years after the date the suit is resolved
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**2. Destruction of Documents.**

The documents listed in Section 1 above, will be destroyed as soon as practicable when the applicable retention period expires. Other documents of the Association not listed in Section 1 above, will be destroyed when deemed appropriate by the Board of Directors of the Association. Destruction of paper documents shall be by shredding, bagging and trash pick-up, unless another method of destroying the documents is approved by the Board of Directors of the Association. Destruction of electronic documents shall be by deletion from hard disks and reformatting of removable disks.

I hereby certify that I am the duly elected, qualified and acting President of the Association and that the foregoing Records Retention Policy was approved by a majority vote of the Board of Directors as set forth above and now appears in the books and records of the Association, to be effective upon recording in the Official Public Records of Real Property of Harris County, Texas.

TO CERTIFY which witness my hand this the 8 day of March, 2012.

**SHERWOOD-ELM GROVE TRAIL ASSOCIATION**

By: [Signature]  
Steve Hester, President

THE STATE OF TEXAS    §  
                                  §  
COUNTY OF HARRIS    §

BEFORE ME, the undersigned notary public, on this 8 day of March, 2012 personally appeared Steve Hester, President of Sherwood-Elm Grove Trail Association, known to me to be the person whose name is subscribed to the foregoing instrument, and acknowledged to me that he executed the same for the purpose and in the capacity therein expressed.

[Signature]  
Notary Public in and for the State of Texas

~~Return to:  
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