COVERED BRIDGE CANYON

HOME OWNERS ASSOCIATION

WILDFLOWER AND NATIVE PLANT MANAGEMENT POLICY

1. Purpose

The purpose of this policy is to provide clear standards for the planting, maintenance, and management of wildflowers and native vegetation within the community. Texas encourages the conservation of native plants; therefore, this policy seeks to support environmentally responsible landscaping while maintaining the neighborhood's aesthetic standards and property values.

2. Definitions

- **Wildflowers:** Flowering plants that grow naturally in Texas without intentional cultivation, including but not limited to bluebonnets, Indian paintbrush, black-eyed Susans, and coreopsis. American Giant sunflowers are not allowed.
- **Native Landscaping Areas:** Portions of a yard intentionally planted or maintained with native plants or wildflowers.
- **Turfgrass Areas:** Portions of a yard planted with grass and maintained per HOA lawn standards.

3. General Requirements

3.1 **Permitted Use of Wildflowers**

Homeowners may plant or maintain defined wildflowers in their yards so long as they comply with the guidelines in this policy.

3.2 **Height Limitations**

- Wildflower stands may exceed turfgrass height requirements **only during the natural growing and blooming season** (typically March through June).
- After the blooming cycle ends and seeds have been set, defined wildflower areas must be trimmed to a height of **12 inches or less** within **30 days**, unless a written extension is granted.

3.3 **Location Guidelines**

- Wildflower areas must appear **intentional and maintained**, not as neglected or overgrown lawn.

- Wildflowers may not obstruct sidewalks, driveways, road visibility, or utility easements.
- Front-yard wildflower areas should be bordered by edging, rocks, mulch, or mowed turfgrass to create a **defined boundary**.

3.4 **Weed Control**
Homeowners must remove or treat noxious, invasive, or nuisance plants (e.g., Johnson grass, thistle, ragweed) that appear in wildflower stands.

4. Maintenance Standards

4.1 **Care and Upkeep**

- Wildflower areas must be watered, trimmed, and maintained in a manner consistent with community appearance standards.
- Dead or excessive vegetation must be removed after the seed-setting period.

4.2 **Seasonal Cut-Back Requirements**

- At the end of the growing season (usually by July 15), all wildflower vegetation must be cut back to maintain a neat appearance.

4.3 **Debris and Pest Prevention**

- Wildflower areas must be kept free from trash, excessive leaf litter, and conditions that harbor pests or pose fire hazards.

5. Approval Requirements

5.1 **When Approval Is Required**
Architectural Review Committee (ARC) approval is required for:

- Wildflower areas exceeding **25% of the front yard**,
- Conversion of more than **50% of a yard** to native landscaping,
- Installation of hardscape or irrigation modifications related to native plant areas.

5.2 **When Approval Is Not Required**

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