



### **LEVEL SPREADER – FILTER STRIP OPERATION & MAINTENANCE AGREEMENT**

This Operation and Maintenance Agreement (“Agreement”) is established this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 20\_\_\_\_\_, by \_\_\_\_\_ (“Owner”), who is the owner of the Property (hereinafter defined), on behalf of the Owner, the Association (if applicable), and all successor Owners of the Property and the Town of Apex (“Town”).

The “Property” is that certain real property described as PIN # \_\_\_\_\_, commonly known as \_\_\_\_\_, it being the same land conveyed to Owner by deed recorded in Book \_\_\_\_\_ at page \_\_\_\_\_ in the Wake County Register of Deeds.

Owner represents, warrants, and agrees that Owner is financially responsible for the construction, maintenance, repair and replacement of all stormwater control structures, appurtenances and vegetation, including the impoundment, located on the Property. Owner agrees to perform the maintenance as outlined below and as may be applicable or required as part of the regulations set forth in Section 6.1.13 of the Town Unified Development Ordinance. A Homeowners Association or Property Owners Association shall not be the financially responsible party unless more than 50% of the lots or units on the Property have been sold and a resident of the Association has been named the president.

Owner agrees that the Town has the right to access the Stormwater Control Measures

(hereinafter “SCM”) on the Property, as deemed necessary in the Town’s sole discretion, by way of the ‘SCM Maintenance & Access easement’ as recorded on the final plat. Owner recognizes and agrees that Owner is responsible for the maintenance and upkeep of the SCM Maintenance & Access easement. Owner acknowledges that Town’s authorized access to the SCM(s) does not create any operation or maintenance responsibility or obligation on the part of the Town.

Owner shall keep a maintenance record for routine maintenance performed related to SCMs on the Property (“SCM Maintenance Record”). The SCM Maintenance Record shall be kept updated by the Owner and be submitted to the Town each year as part of the required annual inspection report package. Any deficiencies noted during routine maintenance shall be corrected, repaired or replaced immediately by Owner. These deficiencies can affect the safety of the public and the pollutant removal efficiency of the SCM.

NUMBER OF LEVEL SPREADER – FILTER STRIPS: \_\_\_\_\_ *(If multiple SCMs of the same type are being recorded, please list below which SCMs are being recorded as labeled on approved construction drawings, e.g. SCM #1, SCM #2, etc.)*

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SCMs being recorded with this agreement

A level spreader – filter strip consists of a level spreader that is typically a poured concrete lip and a filter strip that is graded and grassed that can filter and infiltrate stormwater. The level spreader does not remove pollutants by itself; however, it is an indispensable device needed to bring about pollutant removal in the filter strip. The vegetation and soils in the filter strip remove pollutants primarily via filtration and infiltration.

Inspection and maintenance procedures:

- The level lip shall be inspected for settling, erosion, or concentrated flow.
- Weeds or shrubs growing on level spreader or in the blind swale shall be removed.
- Immediately after the filter strip is established, any newly planted vegetation shall be watered twice weekly if needed until the plants become established (commonly six weeks). The watering shall be in accordance with the Town Water Conservation Ordinance.

For the first two years after the level spreader – filter strip is established, it **shall be inspected quarterly and within 24 hours after every storm event greater than 1.0 inches**. After two years of successful performance, the level spreader – filter strip **shall be inspected quarterly**. Owner shall keep records of inspection and maintenance.

Notices to Owner shall be sent to (please fill in all blanks):

\_\_\_\_\_  
Name

\_\_\_\_\_  
Phone number

\_\_\_\_\_  
Mailing address

\_\_\_\_\_  
E-mail

\_\_\_\_\_  
City, State, ZIP

Notices to Town shall be sent to:

Stormwater Engineering Manager

PO Box 250

Apex, NC 27502

(919) 249-3537

Inspection activities shall be performed by Owner as follows. Any problems that are found shall be repaired by Owner immediately.

SCM Element	Potential Problems	Problem Remediation
<b>The entire SCM</b>	Trash/debris is present.	Remove the trash/debris.
<b>Flow splitter device (if applicable)</b>	The flow splitter device is clogged.	Unclog the conveyance and dispose of any sediment off-site.
	The flow splitter device is damaged.	Make any necessary repairs or replace if damage is too large for repair.
<b>Swale and level lip</b>	The swale is clogged with sediment.	Remove the sediment and dispose of it off-site.
	The level lip is cracked, settled, undercut, eroded or otherwise damaged.	Repair or replace lip.
	There is erosion around the end of the level spreader that shows stormwater has bypassed it.	Regrade the soil to create a berm that is higher than the level lip. Plant a ground cover and water until it is established. Provide lime and a one-time fertilizer application.
	Trees or shrubs have begun to grow on the swale or just downslope of the level lip.	Remove them from these areas.
<b>Bypass channel</b>	Areas of bare soil and/or erosive gullies have formed.	Regrade the soil if necessary to remove the gully, and then reestablish proper erosion control.
	Turf reinforcement is damaged or riprap is being displaced.	Study the site to see if a larger bypass channel is needed (enlarge if necessary). After this, reestablish the erosion control material.

SCM Element	Potential Problems	Problem Remediation
<b>Filter strip</b>	Grass is too short or too long.	Maintain grass at a height of approximately three to six inches.
	Areas of bare soil and/or erosive gullies have formed.	Regrade the soil if necessary to remove the gully, and then plant a ground cover and water until it is established. Provide lime and a one-time fertilizer application.
	Sediment is building up on the filter strip.	Remove the sediment and re-stabilize the soil with vegetation if necessary. Provide lime and a one-time fertilizer application.
	Plants are desiccated.	Provide additional irrigation and fertilizer as needed.
	Plants are dead, diseased, or dying.	Determine the source of the problem: soils, hydrology, disease, etc. Remedy the problem and replace plants. Provide a one-time fertilizer application.
	Nuisance vegetation is choking out desirable species.	Remove vegetation by hand if possible. If pesticide is used, do not allow it to get into the receiving water.

## **Remedies for Violations of this Agreement**

If the Owner shall fail to satisfactorily maintain or repair the SCM as set forth above, or otherwise violates this Agreement, the Town may order the Owner to undertake necessary actions to correct such violation. If the Owner fails to comply with such order within (30) days from the date thereof, the Town, in its sole discretion may enter the Property and perform all necessary work to place the SCM in proper working condition. The full cost of performing the work shall be a lien on the property as provided in G.S. 160A-193. In such event, the Town shall assess against Owner all of its related costs and expenses (including but not limited to employee time, materials and supplies, vehicle and equipment use, administrative expenses, plus all contract costs, if required for repairs, design or inspection) and the Owner hereby agrees to timely pay the same.

Where the Owner is the sole owner of the development, if this total amount is not paid in full within three (3) months of the assessment, then such amount shall be a continuing lien on the Property. Where there is more than one owner of record of the Property, and if the total amount is not paid in full to the Town within three (3) months of the assessment, then each owner of record shall become personally liable for such owner's proportionate share of the assessment. If the proportionate share of the assessment is not paid in full by each such owner within thirty (30) days following receipt of notice thereof from the Town, then such amount shall be a continuing lien on the property owned by each owner, such owner's heirs, devisees, personal representatives, successors and/or assigns.

The Town shall have the right to bring an action against the Owner and/or each individual owner to recover all sums due, including its expenses, damages and its reasonable attorney fees, seek injunctive and equitable relief, and/or such other and further relief as may be just and appropriate.

The remedies provided by this paragraph are cumulative and are in addition to any other remedies provided by law.

Please fill out ONE of the following FOUR signature forms (INDIVIDUAL, CORPORATION, LLC, OR GENERAL PARTNERSHIP) that is the most appropriate description of the type of property owner. Before recording with Wake County, please delete this page and the remaining THREE pages that do not apply.

**INDIVIDUAL**

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the Owner has hereunto set its hand and seal, or if corporate, has caused this instrument to be signed in its corporate name by its duly authorized officers and its seal to be hereunto affixed by authority of its Board of Directors, this the day and year first above written.

\_\_\_\_\_  
[Print Name of Owner]

By: \_\_\_\_\_  
[Signature of Owner]

STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA

COUNTY OF \_\_\_\_\_ [county in which acknowledgement taken]

I, \_\_\_\_\_, a Notary Public of \_\_\_\_\_  
County, North Carolina, do hereby certify that \_\_\_\_\_,  
personally appeared before me this day and acknowledged the due execution of the foregoing  
instrument.

Witness my hand and official stamp or seal, this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 20\_\_\_\_.

\_\_\_\_\_  
[Signature of Notary Public]

[SEAL]

My Commission Expires: \_\_\_\_\_

**CORPORATION**

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the Owner has hereunto set its hand and seal, or if corporate, has caused this instrument to be signed in its corporate name by its duly authorized officers and its seal to be hereunto affixed by authority of its Board of Directors, this the day and year first above written.

\_\_\_\_\_  
[Print Name of Corporation]

By: \_\_\_\_\_  
[Signature of Authorized Representative]

Title: \_\_\_\_\_

STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA

COUNTY OF \_\_\_\_\_ [county in which acknowledgement taken]

I, \_\_\_\_\_, a Notary Public of \_\_\_\_\_ County, North Carolina, certify that \_\_\_\_\_, personally came before me this day and acknowledged that he/she is \_\_\_\_\_ of \_\_\_\_\_ and that he/she as \_\_\_\_\_, being authorized to do so, executed the foregoing on behalf of the corporation.

Witness my hand and official stamp or seal, this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 20\_\_\_\_.

\_\_\_\_\_  
[Signature of Notary Public]

[SEAL]

My Commission Expires: \_\_\_\_\_

**LLC**

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the Owner has hereunto set its hand and seal, or if corporate, has caused this instrument to be signed in its corporate or company name by its duly authorized managing member and its seal to be hereunto affixed, this the day and year first above written.

\_\_\_\_\_, LLC  
[Print Name of Company]

By: \_\_\_\_\_ [Seal]  
[Signature of Member/Manager]

STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA

COUNTY OF \_\_\_\_\_ [county in which acknowledgement taken]

I, \_\_\_\_\_, a Notary Public of \_\_\_\_\_ County, North Carolina, certify that \_\_\_\_\_, personally appeared before me this day and acknowledged that he/she is a member/manager of \_\_\_\_\_, LLC, and that by authority duly given as a member/manager of the company, the foregoing instrument was signed and sealed by him/her on behalf of the company and acknowledged said writing to be the act and deed of said company.

Witness my hand and official stamp or seal, this \_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 20\_\_\_.

\_\_\_\_\_  
[Signature of Notary Public]

[SEAL]

My Commission Expires: \_\_\_\_\_

**GENERAL PARTNERSHIP**

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the Owner has hereunto set its hand and seal, or if corporate, has caused this instrument to be signed in its corporate name by its duly authorized officers and its seal to be hereunto affixed by authority of its Board of Directors, this the day and year first above written.

\_\_\_\_\_, General Partnership  
[Print Name of General Partnership]

By: \_\_\_\_\_  
[Signature of General Partner]

STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA

COUNTY OF \_\_\_\_\_ [county in which acknowledgement taken]

I, \_\_\_\_\_, a Notary Public of \_\_\_\_\_  
County, North Carolina, certify that \_\_\_\_\_, a  
general partner of \_\_\_\_\_, personally appeared before me this day  
and acknowledged the execution of the foregoing instrument.

Witness my hand and official stamp or seal, this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 20\_\_\_\_\_.

\_\_\_\_\_  
[Signature of Notary Public]

[SEAL]

My Commission Expires: \_\_\_\_\_