ORDINANCE NO. 2003-069

AN ORDINANCE OF THE COUNTY OF SARASOTA, FLORIDA, RELATING TO LAND DEVELOPMENT THROUGHOUT SARASOTA COUNTY; RESTATING AND AMENDING SARASOTA COUNTY ORDINANCE NO. 2000-74 AS CODIFIED IN CHAPTER 74 OF THE SARASOTA COUNTY CODE; PROVIDING FOR A FINDING OF CONSISTENCY WITH THE COMPREHENSIVE PLAN; AMENDING SECTION 74-7 RELATING TO DEFINITIONS; CREATING SECTION 74-68 RELATING TO THE DEVELOPMENT OF NEW GOLF COURSES; AMENDING SECTION 74-212 CREATING A GOLF COURSE TECHNICAL MANUAL; PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

BE IT ORDAINED BY THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF SARASOTA COUNTY, FLORIDA:

1. The Board of County Commissioners, sitting as the Land Development Regulation Commission, has found this ordinance to be consistent with *Apoxsee*, the Revised and Updated Sarasota County Comprehensive Plan.

2. This Ordinance amends Ordinance No. 2000-074, as codified in Chapter 74 of the Sarasota County Code. In this ordinance, language added to the existing Code is underscored, and language deleted is typed in strike-through type.

3. Section 74-7(c) of the Sarasota County Code is hereby amended to add definitions read as follows:

   GOLF COURSE. Any public or private area of land designed and used for playing or practicing the game of golf, including tees, fairways, greens, rough areas, and hazards as well as stand-alone driving ranges. A golf course will also include the following uses if they are accessory to the above uses: driving ranges, practice greens, clubhouses, and all facilities associated with the maintenance and daily operations of the above-referenced areas. Club facilities such as locker rooms, restaurants and lounges, pro shops, and other complementary uses are considered part of a golf course. Alternative learning facilities such as First Tee program with less than nine (9) holes are excluded.

   GRASSING. Seeding, sodding and/or sprigging golf course tees, greens, fairways and roughs in preparation for play.

   INTEGRATED PEST MANAGEMENT (IPM). Means a decision-making process for managing pests that uses monitoring to determine pest injury levels and combines biological, cultural, physical, and chemical tools to minimize health, environmental and financial risks. IPM uses extensive knowledge about pests, such as infestation thresholds, life histories, environmental requirements and natural enemies to complement and facilitate biological and other natural control of pests. The method uses the least toxic synthetic pesticides only as a last resort to controlling pests.

   MAINTENANCE FACILITIES. Facilities associated with maintaining a golf course including but not limited to equipment wash facilities; chemical mixing, loading

and storage facilities; fertilizer storage and mixing facilities; fueling and fuel storage facilities; and waste petroleum storage facilities.

PESTICIDES. Fungicides, insecticide, nematicides, herbicides, algicides and any other chemicals used to control pests, weeds, or diseases.

PLAYING SURFACE. All parts of the golf course within course boundaries where play occurs: tees, greens, fairways and roughs.

PRESERVATION OR PRESERVE TREES. Those trees to be preserved as specified in a county Tree Removal and Protection permit pursuant to Chapter 54, Article XVIII. Tree Protection.

WATERBODY. A natural body of water including rivers, lakes, streams, springs, ponds, and all other natural bodies of water including tidal, fresh, brackish, and saline.

4. Section 74-68 of the Sarasota County Code is hereby created to read as follows:

Sec. 74-68. Golf Courses.

(a) Purpose and Intent. The purpose and intent of this Section is to ensure that the development, operation and maintenance of golf courses protects and conserves natural resources and the environment for present and future generations; is compatible and consistent with the overall economic objectives of Sarasota County; maximizes the positive benefits and minimizes the adverse impacts of golf courses; and ensures that these activities will be consistent with the Sarasota County Comprehensive Plan. It is recognized that golf courses provide Sarasota County residents with important recreational opportunities and are a positive economic benefit to the community. It is also recognized that the natural environment of Sarasota County is a unique and valuable resource enjoyed by residents and visitors alike and that the unique economy of Sarasota County is dependent upon maintaining and ensuring a high degree of environmental quality. Therefore, golf course development should further the implementation of the goals, policies, and objectives of Sarasota County's Comprehensive Plan (Apoxsee), meeting the social and economic needs of Sarasota County residents and protecting the integrity of the natural environment and resources of the County.

(b) Applicability and Interpretation.

(1) The provisions of this Article shall apply only within the unincorporated areas of Sarasota County.

(2) Where any provision of this Article refers to another provision, ordinance, statute, regulation, or other authority, it refers to the most current version, incorporating any amendments thereto or redesignation thereof.

(3) The standards of this section apply to proposed new golf courses, as defined,

(c) General Provisions

(1) All golf courses shall be:

a. Consistent with Apoxsee, Sarasota County's Comprehensive Plan.

b. Consistent with the U.S. Golf Association "Environmental Principles for Golf Courses in the United States."

c. Located, designed, permitted, constructed and operated in compliance with all applicable federal, state, regional and local laws, ordinances, rules and regulations.

d. Located, designed, and operated to minimize their impacts on natural resources. Water resource issues shall be addressed throughout the planning, development, construction and life of the golf course.

e. Located, designed, and operated in accordance with applicable, current Best Management Practices of the Florida Department of Environmental Protection, the University of Florida (UF)/Florida Institute of Food and Agricultural Sciences (IFAS), and the Southwest Florida Water Management District.

(2) Every proposed golf course presents a unique case since existing conditions vary and no two sites are exactly the same. There will be specific issues based on individual site location characteristics and local regulations. It is essential that these issues be identified and addressed in the initial stages of planning and design.

(3) With the exception of driving ranges and limited flight ball facilities, a minimum of nine (9) holes is required; additional holes shall be in nine-hole increments.

(4) Modifications to Golf Course Concept Plans.

Minor adjustments to an approved Golf Course Concept Plan may be made administratively at the discretion of the County Administrator or designee.

(5) Open Space.

a. Golf courses should be designed and maintained to provide aesthetic and/or functional linkages between other open spaces to create an open space network throughout the community.

b. Whenever possible, locations of golf course shall be planned to establish open space relationships with other planned or existing regional open spaces.

(d) Certification Program. New golf courses shall be designed, constructed, certified, and managed in accordance with the Audubon International Signature Program for new golf courses or a similarly recognized golf

course environmental certification program. Golf courses not so certified shall provide adequate documentation that the golf course meets or exceeds equivalent standards of such programs, including compliance monitoring. All golf courses also shall comply with the design and performance standards in this section.

(1) The following are equivalent minimum standards for new golf courses not certified by Audubon International. Golf courses shall provide documentation that they will be designed, constructed and managed to meet or exceed these standards prior to development approval.

a. Improve on-site natural habitats

b. Identify, protect, and restore natural features

c. Create wildlife corridors and wildlife habitat areas

d. Utilize native species in landscaping

e. Preserve native trees

f. Create and enhance natural areas

g. Remove exotic, nuisance and invasive plants

h. Increase bird and wildlife populations

i. Enhance wetland and lakefront edges with aquatic plantings

j. Create and preserve open spaces

k. Minimize chemical use

l. Minimize irrigation and irrigated areas

m. Use endophytically-enhanced turf varieties, and organic fertilizers

n. Minimize turf areas and provide natural “no-mow” areas

o. Protect wetland hydrology and functions

(2) Should a golf course lose its certification from Audubon International or a similar program, or should the status of certification change from being in full compliance:

a. then the golf course shall provide written notice to the County within ten working days of the loss or change in status of the certification;

b. Within 60 days after providing notice to the County of the loss of certification or change in status the golf course shall also submit a written plan of action acceptable to the County Administrator or designee to achieve re-certification in the shortest possible time. The golf course shall then implement the approved plan.

c. Failure to properly implement the plan shall be considered a violation of the golf course development approval permit. The golf course shall submit a plan of action to correct the violation and comply with the plan. Failure to notify the County of lack of implementation or to submit a plan of action may result in penalties up to and including revocation of the golf course use if it is deemed by the County Administrator or designee that the violation(s) is a threat to the environment.

(e) Compliance Date. The provisions of this ordinance shall apply to those rezone or special exception applications for new golf courses that are received after the effective date of the ordinance.

(f) Submittal Requirements

(1) Rezonings/Special Exceptions

a. All new golf courses shall be approved pursuant to the appropriate process in the County's Zoning Ordinance. See the Zoning Ordinance and current application forms for additional requirements.

b. All developments containing golf courses shall prepare and submit a Golf Course Concept Plan. The plan shall show:

1. The general location of proposed uses and structures, including but not limited to: golf course routings, clubhouses, maintenance facilities, restrooms, water management lakes, and waterbody crossings.

2. The general area of any accessory buildings, structures and maintenance areas. Minimum setbacks for accessory buildings and structures shall be shown and used for the final placement of these buildings, structures or facilities.

3. The maximum height, in feet and number of stories, of any proposed buildings or structures.

4. The uses requested.

5. The minimum width and composition of all proposed buffers along the perimeter of the subject property. Minimum building setbacks for buildings and structures, shall be shown and used for the final placement of buildings, structures or facilities, unless a greater setback

is deemed necessary by the Board of County Commissioners.

6. The general location of all points of pedestrian and vehicular ingress and egress from existing easements or rights-of-way into the development or golf course.

7. The general location of open space including the location of natural and manmade bodies of water, and areas of native vegetation to be retained or created.

8. A traffic impact statement in a format and to the degree of detail required by a form furnished by the County and in conformance with the adopted County administrative code. Upon written request, the County Administrator or designee may waive this requirement.

c. Applications for development rezonings and special exceptions that will include golf course uses also shall include an environmental assessment. The assessment shall include, at a minimum, an analysis of the environmental and natural resources of the property including preliminary wetland delineations; vegetation mapping utilizing the most current version of the Department of Transportation's Florida Land Use, Cover and Forms Classification System (FLUCCS), Level III minimum; Apoxsee Native Habitat designations; as well as a protected species survey performed in accordance with Florida Wildlife Conservation Commission's survey methodology guidelines. Cultural, archeological and historical resources shall be identified. All proposed preservation areas shall be identified. These requirements may be combined with, but do not replace, any other environmental submittal documents required by Environmental Technical Manual in the Land Development Regulations.

d. A Water Quality Monitoring Plan including a protocol for a baseline analysis of pre-development surface waters and an Irrigation Water Resources Plan addressing irrigation needs and sources shall prepared, submitted and found acceptable by the County.

(2) Preliminary/Site and Development Plan Approval. In addition to the submittal requirements for developments set forth elsewhere in this Code, applications shall include:

a. A Drainage Master Plan. The Plan shall be submitted to the County for review thirty (30) days prior to the first Preliminary/Site and Development Plan submittal.

b. A water quality baseline analysis. This analysis is intended to establish baseline data for surface water quality monitoring for the project area. The analysis shall be designed to identify those

nutrients and chemicals that are anticipated to be associated with the development. Prior to commencing the baseline analysis, the methodology shall be submitted for review, comment, and approval by the County.

c. A Resource Management Plan, including the Water Resources and Natural Resources Components, the Soils Management Plan, and the Irrigation Systems Maintenance Plan.

d. A separate landscape plan that meets the requirements of the Zoning Ordinance, the Land Development Regulations and all rezone or special exception stipulations. All landscape plans shall be signed and sealed by a Florida registered Landscape Architect.

5. Section 74-212 of the Sarasota County Code is hereby amended to read as follows:

(f) The Golf Course Technical Manual attached to this Ordinance is hereby incorporated into this Ordinance and adopted as a part of these Regulations as if fully set forth herein.

~~(f)~~ (g) Appendix C6 attached to this Ordinance is hereby amended as indicated and reincorporated into this Ordinance and these Regulations.

~~(g)~~ (h) Appendices C13A& C13B attached to this Ordinance are hereby amended as indicated and reincorporated into this Ordinance and these Regulations.

~~(h)~~ (i) Appendix C14 attached to this Ordinance is hereby amended as indicated and reincorporated into this Ordinance and these Regulations.

~~(i)~~ (j) Appendix C15 attached to this Ordinance is hereby amended as indicated and reincorporated into this Ordinance and these Regulations.

~~(j)~~ (k) Appendix C19 attached to this Ordinance is hereby amended as indicated and reincorporated into this Ordinance and these Regulations.

~~(k)~~ (l) Appendix C24 attached to this Ordinance is hereby amended as indicated and reincorporated into this Ordinance and these Regulations.

~~(l)~~ (m) Appendix C29 attached to this Ordinance is hereby incorporated into this Ordinance and adopted as a part of these Regulations as if fully set forth herein.

~~(m)~~ (n) Appendix C30 attached to this Ordinance is hereby incorporated into this Ordinance and adopted as a part of these Regulations as if fully set forth herein.

~~(n)~~ (o) Appendix D2 attached to this Ordinance is hereby amended as indicated in the attachment and reincorporated into this Ordinance and these Regulations.

GOLF COURSE TECHNICAL MANUAL

A. RESOURCE MANAGEMENT PLAN. The Resource Management Plan shall be prepared by experienced professionals familiar with golf course design, construction, agronomy, environment/natural resources, and water resources. The Resource Management Plan shall be a site-specific, comprehensive document submitted to the County detailing goals and Best Management Practices (BMPs) to include, but not limited to, vegetation management, fertilizer and pesticide management, stormwater management, water quality management, irrigation management and general management.

The Resource Management Plan shall consist of Water Resources (Water Quality and Water Conservation) and Natural Resources Components.

The Resource Management Plan shall be updated every five (5) years and submitted to the County for review. Any significant changes to the golf course that do not require additional County development approval shall be submitted to the County as they occur. The approved golf course shall submit annual monitoring reports for the Resource Management Plan. The monitoring reports shall begin during the initial project construction phase and continue until five (5) years after the issuance of a site certification for the entire project. The report shall provide discussion and documentation on the following activities:

1. Water Resources Component

   a. A Water Quality Plan shall be prepared and submitted for approval by the County Administrator or designee to insure on-going protection of ground and surface water quality and shall address methods to avoid and minimize potential adverse impacts to surface water or ground water. The Water Quality Plan shall include Integrated Pest Management (IPM). The major components of IPM to be included are as follows:

      1) Monitoring and inventory of pest populations

      2) Determination of pest-induced injury and action levels

      3) Identification of priority pest problems

      4) Selection and timing of least toxic management tools

      5) Site-specific treatment with minimized chemical use

      6) Evaluation and adjustment of pesticide applications

   b. A Water Quality Monitoring Plan also shall be prepared and submitted for approval by the County Administrator or designee. See Section B.4.a.1) d) for plan requirements.

c. A Water Conservation Plan shall be prepared and submitted for approval by the County Administrator or designee and shall include a drought-contingency plan that identifies alternate sources of water and areas where irrigation can be reduced, an Irrigation Water Resources Plan addressing water needs and sources, and a Soils Management Plan. See Sections B.4.b.1) and B.4.b.3) c) for plan requirements.

2. Natural Resources Component.

a. A Natural Resources Component shall be prepared and shall describe appropriate management techniques for natural vegetation areas based upon the existing and created plant communities. Management techniques addressed shall include, but are not limited to, the following:

1) Invasive exotic plant control;

2) Removal of any trash and debris;

3) Restoration of appropriate habitat-specific hydrology;

4) Prescribed fire or other means for fuel load reduction or habitat improvement;

5) Native plant restoration;

6) Discussion of flora and fauna;

7) Enhancement of wildlife habitat;

8) Retention of dead trees and snags;

9) Tree protection and removal;

10) Identification of areas for restoration, replanting, or enhancement of riparian habitat to re-establish wildlife migration corridors and linkages between fragmented habitat areas. Protection and planned restoration/enhancements for such areas during construction and ongoing operation is required. The Component shall protect drainage systems that support preserved vegetation.

b. A Natural Resources Monitoring Plan shall be prepared that includes the status of wetland mitigation or wetland/upland enhancement and/or restoration; littoral zone monitoring; wildlife monitoring; a discussion of wildlife and protected species activity and habitat management activities; land management activities including those used on the golf course as well as preserve or conservation areas. The plan should include corrective actions if adverse impacts are identified. If after five years no significant adverse impacts are

determined and no change in ownership has occurred, reporting may be terminated at the discretion of the County Administrator or designee.

B. DESIGN AND PERFORMANCE STANDARDS.

1. Golf Driving Ranges.

   a. A site plan of the facility shall be submitted showing the layout of the property with all tees, roughs, side yards, structures, off-street parking areas, fencing and proposed plant materials and location.

   b. The site shall be of such configuration so as to permit a minimum driving distance of 300 yards from each proposed tee. The minimum distance requirement may be modified upon satisfactory proof of special circumstances for 'limited flight ball' type facilities such as aqua ranges.

   c. Dimensional requirements shall be as generally illustrated in Figure 1. Minimum required yards on all sides of a driving range shall be 50 feet. Tees shall be as generally illustrated on Figure 2.

   d. Lighting used at the site shall be designed, located and constructed so as to prevent glare and minimize reflection onto neighboring property.

2. The golf course shall be designed and configured with consideration of the safety of any adjacent residential development. The Developer and/or Owner shall provide a statement to the County that the golf course design will not create a hazard to public safety and is compatible with adjacent residential uses.

3. Natural Resources. Natural features, state and federally listed species' habitat areas, wildlife corridors, and environmentally sensitive areas as defined by Apoxsee and appropriate state and federal agencies shall be identified early in the site evaluation process. The preservation of these areas shall be a basis for site design of the course.

   a. Cart Paths and Trails.

      1) All cart paths shall be located and designed so as to minimize environmental impacts (e.g. length, width, location, grading, stream and wetland crossings, and visual impact).

      2) Golf cart and pedestrian travel outside of paths shall not occur within or adjacent to sensitive habitat areas.

      3) Cart paths approved in sensitive areas shall be constructed of permeable materials and be a maximum of ten (10) feet wide.

4) Golf cart crossings of natural water bodies, watercourses, and flow-ways shall be elevated and shall be a maximum of ten (10) feet wide.

5) Any nature trails approved within preserve areas are for pedestrian use only. All-terrain vehicles, dirt bikes and other motorized vehicles are prohibited within preserve areas.

b. Vegetation.

1) Every effort shall be made to route the golf course in such a way as to minimize the need to alter or remove existing native landscapes. The golf course routing shall identify areas that provide opportunities for restoration and/or enhancement of valuable habitat in the event of disturbance.

2) Any areas out of play should be utilized to retain or restore existing native vegetation, where possible. The design shall provide for restoration or enhancement of environmentally sensitive areas.

3) A plan shall be provided for the initial removal, maintenance and control of nuisance and invasive exotic plants. Species to be addressed are as specified in Sarasota County's Exotic Plant Code, Section 54-621, state regulations (Chapters 5B-57.007 and 62C-52.011, FAC) and the Florida Exotic Pest Plant Council's list of Category I and II invasive species as appropriate to this geographic region. Nuisance and invasive vegetation shall be removed in accordance with the approved plan and properly disposed of in an approved landfill or other location or method approved by the county.

4) All landscape plans shall be signed and sealed by a Florida Registered Landscape Architect.

5) Tree protection and removal will comply with the Sarasota County Code, Chapter 54, Article XVIII, Tree Protection.

6) Plant species that are best suited to the local area shall be selected. Native, naturalized or drought tolerant plants shall be used wherever possible unless otherwise prohibited.

7) The design of the course and related facilities shall maximize the preservation of clusters or significant stands of native trees with consideration given to the playability of the golf course.

c. Habitat.

1) Golf courses shall be located, designed, and operated so that:

a) Critical habitat is conserved and the development does not adversely impact viable on-site occupied wildlife habitat for federal or state protected species, species of special concern, threatened, or endangered species unless authorized by the U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service or the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission; and

b) As much natural vegetation as feasible is retained and vegetation is enhanced through supplemental planting of native trees, shrubs and herbaceous vegetation, such as along fairways and out of play, to provide wildlife habitat and along watercourses supporting fish and other water dependent species.

c) Perimeter fences or walls are not required or encouraged. If perimeter fences or walls are proposed, they shall be designed to:

1. Permit wide-ranging small and large animals to traverse the site; and

2. Provide a minimum of one-foot clearance between the ground and the lowest portion of a fence or wall, except where determined to be necessary to exclude feral animals.

3. Alternatives to 2 above that meet the intent of providing native wildlife the ability to traverse the site will be considered, but any alternative fence or wall is subject to the approval of the County Administrator or designee.

2) On proposed golf course sites where regional wildlife corridors have been identified, the golf course shall be configured to provide for the maintenance and/or enhancement of native habitat to facilitate the continued use of the wildlife corridor. Existing and proposed crossings of the wildlife corridor for linear facilities associated with the golf course should be minimized. Unavoidable crossings must accommodate wildlife movement.

3) Retention of dead trees and snags is encouraged.

4) Habitat for wildlife species that help control pests (e.g., bats, bluebirds, purple martins, etc.) shall be conserved and enhanced. Additional habitat for these beneficial species should be created whenever feasible and environmentally desirable, including supplying nest boxes.

5) Native habitat shall be managed to maintain healthy populations of wildlife and aquatic species.

d. Waterbodies/Watercourses/Flow-ways.

1) Natural waterbodies, watercourses, and flow-ways shall be left in a natural, unaltered condition and shall not be channelized or excavated for new lakes or ponds.

2) If a crossing of a natural water body, watercourse, or flow-way is necessary, the crossing shall be designed to minimize the removal of trees and other shading vegetation.

3) Crossings of natural water bodies watercourses, and flow-ways shall be bridged or otherwise provide for undiminished water movement or flow.

4) Crossings shall be designed in such a way as to minimize erosion and harmful effects to riparian and wetland habitats and recognized wildlife corridors.

5) Created or restored water bodies, watercourses, and flow-ways may be crossed by bridges or culverts, or a combination thereof, if approved by Sarasota County and the Southwest Florida Water Management District.

e. Buffers.

1) A 30-foot native vegetation buffer for wetlands and natural water bodies shall be provided from areas of managed turf within golf courses as measured from the edge of any managed turf to the wetland jurisdictional line, as determined by Chapter 62-340, FAC, or the top of bank of water bodies. Where justified by site physical conditions, a properly designed structural buffer may be utilized in lieu of the setback buffer from wetlands. A structural buffer may consist of a fence or native vegetation, which does not require irrigation or fertilization and planted at county-approved densities.

2) A 20-foot limited spray zone shall be established from the top of bank around all water management lakes. Chemicals may be applied in this 20-foot zone by spot treatment only on an as needed basis to reduce chemical and fertilizer run-off.

3) The wetlands, mesic hammock, and associated upland vegetative buffers shall be maintained as preserves and labeled as preserve areas on all plans. All activities including but not limited to filling, excavating, removing and altering of vegetation (including trimming of both trees and understory) and storing of materials shall be prohibited within the preservation areas, unless written approval is first obtained

from the County. Proposed wetland and mesic hammock impacts are subject to review by the County during the Preliminary/Site and Development Plan review.

4) Any maintenance facility, irrigation pump or outdoor storage area, shall provide visual screening around such facility that provides 0.7 (or 70%) opacity. Types of visual screening shall be consistent with the Zoning Ordinance.

5) Perimeter buffers shall be consistent with the zoning code.

4. Water Resources.

a. Water Quality: The golf course shall use the following Surface Water Protection, Ground Water Protection, Maintenance Facilities and Integrated Pest Management Design and Performance Standards.

1) Surface Water Protection:

a) Stormwater:

1. Stormwater run-off shall be treated/pretreated in accordance with County and State standards and permitted by the Southwest Florida Water Management District (SWFWMD) prior to discharge to any wetland system.

2. The golf course shall employ BMPs to control non-point source (stormwater) pollution.

3. Berms, terraces, vegetative buffer strips, grassed drainage swales, or other recommended technologies shall be used in parking areas for drainage controls to minimize pollution to nearby riparian areas and surface waters.

4. All greens shall utilize underdrains.

5. The golf course shall have a training and education program for employees in the proper BMPs to prevent runoff pollution and protect surface water quality.

b) Irrigation Design Standards. The golf course irrigation system shall be designed utilizing current best irrigation technologies to minimize overspray to surface waters.

c) Nutrient Management Plan. The golf course shall design and implement a Nutrient Management Plan to limit effluent, raw water, and fertilizer nutrient applications to levels equal to or less than turf grass and vegetation

nutrient uptake in order to minimize nutrient transportation via runoff, inflow, or deep percolation, based on BMPs that include but are not limited to:

1. Maintenance of healthy turf grass using appropriate irrigation, pest, and compaction strategies.

2. Monitoring and maintenance of thatch level.

3. Periodic soil aerification.

4. Sampling to analyze soils to determine phosphorus content and to set fertilizer application rates to correspond to nutrient uptake.

5. Utilization of soil and plant tissue tests to establish proper application rates.

6. Nitrogen budgets for all sources of nitrogen and phosphorus.

7. Reduction of total fertilizer usage.

8. Utilization of appropriate application technology including multiple low rate applications, granular formulations, proper equipment calibration and maintenance, proper disposal of unused fertilizer, and no application to bare soil or impervious surfaces or surface waters, except at the time of grassing the course.

9. Utilization of buffer zones and setbacks from surface water and environmentally sensitive features.

10. Control of timing of fertilizer applications in relation to precipitation events and irrigation schedules.

11. Detailed records that identify all fertilizers used, application rates, application times, application methods, and application locations.

d) A Water Quality Monitoring Plan shall be prepared to ensure the on-going protection of ground and surface water quality. The Monitoring Plan can be modified based on site-specific conditions. A Monitoring Plan developed in partnership with the Audubon International Signature Program for new golf courses

can be utilized in lieu of the requirements of this section. The Monitoring Plan shall include the following:

1. A pre-development background (baseline) study with samples taken at the following locations:

    a. Upstream and downstream of the golf course development on adjacent major rivers, streams, creeks, if present.

    b. Flowing tributaries, wetlands, and water features draining golf course development, if present.

    c. Any additional site-specific locations selected prior to development.

2. Sample Frequency:

    a. One set of dry season surface water quality samples and one set of wet weather discharge surface water quality samples will be collected prior to commencement of construction.

    b. Post-construction surface water quality sampling will begin with the installation and maintenance of golf course turf and landscaping. Samples will be collected a minimum of three times per year with one sampling event scheduled during July (the beginning of the wet season), a second sampling event scheduled during October (the end of the wet season), and a third sampling event scheduled during February through May (dry season). Should there not be a discharge on the scheduled sample date, samples shall be taken during the next discharge event.

    c. Post-construction surface water quality sampling will continue through three years of operation and can be discontinued at the end of that time period provided that all required water quality monitoring has been completed and the development continues to implement all current Management Plans.

3. Sampling parameters will be determined based on golf course operation and basin specific

parameters of concern (identified by the Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL) Program).

4. Corrective Actions

a. Re-sampling. Should a spike occur for any water quality parameter, the site shall be re-sampled for that parameter within ten working days or, if no discharge, during the next discharge event.

b. In the event that water quality monitoring indicates a chronic deviation above applicable State Water Quality Standards or background, the development shall take whatever corrective actions are necessary to achieve compliance within a reasonable period of time.

c. Golf courses that do not continue strict adherence to all current Management plans and do not implement corrective actions to achieve compliance when a water quality problem is identified will be subject to the loss of its stormwater credit(s).

5. Post construction Monitoring Reports of surface water quality shall be submitted to Sarasota County for review. The reports shall include the following:

a. Surface water quality monitoring at primary outfall structure in each drainage basin.

b. Date, Time, location of all sampling events, sample methodology and protocols and the results of all sampling.

2) Ground Water Protection

a) A Wellhead Protection Plan that includes BMPs that meet state and local minimum required setback requirements for potential sources of contamination shall be prepared to provide for ground water protection. The Plan will include the following:

1. Location of all wells and delineation of one-quarter mile around each well within the golf course.

2. Identification of the aquifer that all wells are drawing from, depth of wells, and depth of casings.

3. Inventory of potential sources of contamination within the delineated area.

4. Location of all abandoned wells within the golf course. Abandoned wells shall be plugged in accordance with Chapter 54, Article XIII of the Sarasota County Code.

5. Location of all wells and potential sources of contamination within one-quarter mile of the golf course.

6. An emergency contingency procedure to address the response, containment, and remediation of any hazardous materials spilled.

b) All wellhead protection requirements of Sarasota County, SWFWMD, and the Sarasota County Department of Health shall be strictly adhered to.

c) If a golf course is proposed or requested in any wellfield protection zone, the portion of the golf course in these zones shall be located, designed, and operated to comply with the Wellfield Protection Ordinance.

d) Design, construction, operation, and maintenance of the golf course shall not adversely impact public supply wells.

e) Design, construction, operation, and maintenance of the golf course shall not adversely impact public individual residential wells.

3) Temporary and Permanent Maintenance Facilities

a) The golf course shall comply with criteria outlined in the most current edition of the Florida Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) Best Management Practices for Golf Course Maintenance Departments.

b) Nothing in the DEP Best Management Practices for Golf Course Maintenance Facilities shall preempt other Sarasota County ordinances or provisions of the Sarasota County Code that impose stricter standards.

c) Temporary and permanent maintenance facilities shall be operational prior to grassing the course.

d) Equipment utilized in the maintenance of golf courses and associated developments shall be designed, used, maintained and stored in such a way to eliminate or minimize potential for pollution.

e) Equipment Wash Facility

1. The equipment wash facility shall be located in a roofed structure to prevent exposure to stormwater.

2. Wash water generated from cleaning equipment other than pesticide application equipment shall be discharged to:

a. A wash water recycling system,

b. A treatment system that has been permitted under DEP Industrial wastewater rules, or

c. A domestic sewer system through an oil/grease and water separator (with written permission from the utility).

3. Wash water generated from activities described in 2. above shall not be discharged to any pervious surfaces, surface waters, ground water, or wetlands in accordance with Chapter 54, Article VII of the Sarasota County Code.

f) Chemical Mixing, Loading and Storage Facility

1. Pesticides shall be stored in a lockable, concrete, or metal building located a minimum of 50 feet from other structures to allow for fire fighting access; however, it may be a part of or adjacent to the chemical mixing center (CMC).

2. The pesticide storage area shall be separate from other buildings (except the CMC) or separated from areas used to store other materials, especially fertilizers.

3. The floor shall be an impervious surface sealed with chemical-resistant paint.

4. The floor shall have a continuous sill to retain spilled materials.

5. There shall be no floor drains that drain directly to stormwater facilities.

6. A CMC shall be used for the loading and mixing of all pesticides used on the golf course.

   a. It shall be in a roofed structure to prevent exposure to stormwater.

   b. The floor shall be a sealed, impervious surface.

   c. There shall be a containment structure to prevent spill run-off to the ground, surface waters, or stormwater system.

   d. No storm drains shall be installed at the CMC site.

   e. A written spill protocol plan shall be on-site at the facility.

   f. All employees shall receive proper training in the handling, mixing, loading of chemicals, and spill prevention.

g) Fertilizer Storage and Mixing Facility

1. Fertilizer shall be stored separately in a concrete building with a metal or other flame resistant roof.

2. Ammonium Nitrate fertilizer shall be stored securely and inventoried to prevent theft.

3. Any spill shall be immediately cleaned up using dry collection methods such as sweeping or vacuuming and the material shall be applied to the golf course as fertilizer.

4. No soaps or water shall be used to prevent runoff to storm drains or surface waters

5. No storm drains shall be installed at the mixing or loading site.

h) Fueling Site and Fuel Storage Area

1. The fuel dispensers shall be installed on a concrete surface large enough to prevent any spill from reaching the ground, stormwater system, or surface water.

2. Fuel pumps shall have automatic shut-off mechanisms.

3. Spills totaling 25 gallons or more in volume shall be immediately reported to the Department of Environmental Protection via the State Warning Point.

4. Any fuel spill or leak shall be immediately contained; the area shall be cleaned using absorbent or other acceptable materials; the fuel-contaminated material shall be properly disposed.

5. No soaps or water shall be used to clean any fuel spill or leak.

6. No storm drains shall be installed at the fueling site or fuel storage area.

7. Fuel storage tanks should be in compliance with DEP storage tank regulations (Chapter 62-761 F.A.C.)

i) Waste Petroleum Storage

1. Used oil, and oil filters shall be collected and stored in separate marked containers and recycled.

2. Used antifreeze shall be collected, stored in a separate marked container, and disposed as hazardous waste.

3. Used batteries shall be stored under cover on an impervious surface and recycled.

j) Organic Debris

1. Grass clippings, tree limbs, and other vegetative debris shall not be allowed to accumulate at one location on the development.

2. Grass clippings, tree limbs, and other vegetative debris shall be disposed of appropriately and shall not be placed into surface waters, water bodies, or stormwater facilities.

3. Grass clippings, if collected, shall be composted or spread in a wooded area or rough.

4. Tree limbs and other vegetative debris other than grass clippings shall be chipped and used for mulch or transported to a legal landfill for disposal.

4) Integrated Pest Management.

The golf course shall implement an Integrated Pest Management Plan (IPM) that is consistent with State requirements for the use of restricted use pesticides and that uses all suitable control measures to reduce pest related losses to an acceptable level with the goal of respecting genetic diversity and reducing risks to human health and the environment. A key concept of IPM is to manage turf to optimize its health, so it is more resistant to disease and damage. Golf course maintenance employees shall receive training and education in the implementation of the IPM. The IPM should be integrated with irrigation, nutrient, and chemical management plans and should include:

a) Selection of turf should be consistent with the goals of integrated pest management.

b) Utilization of insect traps or other devices or methods to aid in identification of potential pests.

c) Development of action thresholds for pests below which no application is used to reduce the use of pesticides.

d) Utilization of biological controls instead of chemical controls.

e) Pesticide selection using pest specific products that are less toxic, less mobile, and less persistent or using alternate control strategies to reduce hazards to beneficial organisms.

f) Minimization of applications to reduce hazards to beneficial organisms using information from label, chemical characteristics and site characteristics.

g) Utilization of spot treatments wherever possible, rather than broadcast treatments.

h) Control of timing of pesticide application in relation to local environmental conditions and irrigation schedules.

i) Development of course monitoring and mapping plan to track pest infestation.

j) Assessment of potential off-site transport prior to application.

k) Detailed records that identify all pesticide types, application rates, application times, application methods and application locations.

b. Water Conservation: The golf course shall use the following Irrigation Water Sources, Irrigation Systems Utilized, Turf and Landscape Design and Performance Standards and use Best Management Practices.

1) Irrigation Water Resources.

a) Prior to rezone or special exception approval of any new golf course, an Irrigation Water Resources strategic plan shall be prepared and submitted to the County Administrator or designee for the course that addresses the following. It is recognized that a combination of sources may be required.

1. Irrigation water needs and proposed sources.

2. Use of reclaimed water or stormwater, if available, shall be the highest priority water source considered and evaluated.

3. Surface water systems and/or groundwater systems only should be considered and evaluated when it is demonstrated that reclaimed water and/or stormwater is not available to meet irrigation needs.

4. Confined aquifer systems will be the last source of water to be considered and evaluated.

b) The plan shall demonstrate no adverse impact to the natural environment, including surface water or groundwater systems, by use of proposed water sources.

c) The plan shall also demonstrate no adverse impact to existing legal water uses of proposed water sources.

d) The plan shall identify quantities of each water source needed on a regular basis and what water sources will be used on a stand-by basis only.

2) Irrigation Systems.

a) The use of groundwater, stormwater or surface water for irrigation shall comply with all pertinent SWFWMD and State Health Department rules and regulations.

b) The Developer and/or Owner shall identify the utility capable of providing reclaimed water to serve the golf course.

c) The utilization of new and innovative technologies that provide highly efficient water usage, as well as the application of proven technology to decrease overall water use shall be encouraged and to prevent irrigation runoff to surface waters The golf course irrigation system shall be designed to provide controls such as soil moisture sensors or weather stations for proper water management and conservation and to minimize over-watering.

d) Golf course irrigation shall be supervised by a trained, full-time superintendent.

e) Areas of irrigation shall be identified and prioritized in order to reduce routine irrigation and plan for periods of water shortages. All stand-by water sources shall be identified and potential water quantities needed identified.

f) Irrigation system coverage shall be accurately mapped to determine wetted area and irrigation rates. Irrigation shall be responsive to existing conditions, rather than on a set schedule. The irrigation system shall operate on an "as needed" basis through the utilization of weather forecasting and ongoing assessment of the moisture content of the soils. Drawings will include all irrigated areas, flow rates, actually spray patterns, etc. for all heads and zones.

g) An Irrigation System Maintenance Plan shall be submitted that includes programs to regularly inspect for leaks and to monitor usage.

h) Irrigation management education will be provided for irrigation technicians, so that they are fully trained in water conservation and irrigation principles outlined as part of the Water Conservation Plan.

3) Turf and Landscape Design.

a) Golf Courses must comply with all Florida Department of Environmental Protection and SWFWMD Water

Conservation requirements and shall make water conservation a critical priority in course design. The requirements include not only the layout of turf areas but in turf grass selection as well as plant palette, water conserving appliances, fixtures and system in all course buildings and facilities.

b) Turf grass selection should have water conservation as a primary goal while considering factors such as local conditions, water quality, and soil characteristics. Recommendations for golf course turf grasses can be obtained from the UF/IFAS Cooperative Extension Service or through the US Golf Association Green Section.

c) A Soils Management Plan shall be submitted with Construction Plans that includes:

1. Demonstration of the efficient use of on-site soils relative to water use and conservation.

2. The use of soil amendments to create more water efficient soils.

3. Creation of applicable functional root zones for turf grass and landscape needs.

4. A proper functional root zone will be required in landscape beds built on disturbed soils and with permanent irrigation system. Use of 12" root zone or documentation supporting the design root zone will be required.

5. The general location of all excavation and stockpiles of fill or strippings.

4) Best Management Practices. If the new golf course is part of a residential development, then Best Management Practices document s or pamphlets, available from the University of Florida (UF)/Institute of Food and Agricultural Sciences (IFAS), Florida Department of Environmental Protection (FDEP), Southwest Florida Water Management District (SWFWMD), etc., shall be distributed to new homeowners. For the education of homeowners, the documents should provide common sense applications that will decrease irrigation water needs, reduce the risk of pollution and, in many cases, improve the health and appearance of the yard. Information may include Xeriscaping information and the University of Florida/IFAS Florida Yards and Neighborhoods Handbook or similar publications.

5) Water Conservation Monitoring. A summary of the monthly irrigation withdrawal and irrigation sources is required to be submitted to the county.

C. OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE.

1. Appropriate erosion control measures shall be established in conformance with the County grading requirements, state regulations, and BMPs prior to commencement of construction activities.

2. The possibility of contamination of groundwater during construction and operation shall be minimized.

3. The golf course shall use current BMPs to perpetually maintain all golf course areas as well as any on-site native vegetation areas associated with other private recreational facilities. Upland preserve areas shall be protected from encroachment during construction activities by erecting barricades, which are highly visible. Such barricades shall be a minimum of three feet in height and shall not be attached to vegetation. The developer and/or Owner shall be responsible for maintaining such barriers until construction activities have concluded.

4. Preservation trees as shown on approved site and development plans that are removed, damaged or die as a result of grading or irrigation shall require replacement per Section 54, Article XVIII, Tree Protection Code.

5. The Operational Maintenance entity shall be required to maintain the appearance of and function of any private drainage facilities to be constructed on the site, including retention ponds and drainage ditches, at its own expense in accordance with applicable federal, state or local regulations. At the time of recording a plat or prior to final construction approval, the Developer and/or Owner shall be required to record in the public records a Notice to Purchaser, approved by Sarasota County, putting purchasers on notice that the maintenance of drainage facilities is a private responsibility

D. MONITORING

1. Construction Monitoring. Reports detailing construction activities, permitting, compliance with Audubon International Signature Standards or equivalent standards and percent of project completed shall be submitted annually.

2. Natural Resource monitoring reports shall be submitted annually as part of the annual Resource Management Plan monitoring report.

3. Water Quality monitoring reports shall be submitted within forty-five (45) days of each sampling event and become part of the annual Resource Management Plan monitoring report.

4. Post construction Water Quality reports shall be submitted sixty (60) days following the Engineer's site certification.

5. Water Conservation monitoring reports shall be submitted as part of the annual Resource Management Plan monitoring report.

5. Effective Date. This Ordinance shall take effect immediately upon receipt of official acknowledgment from the Office of Secretary of State that this Ordinance has been filed with said office.

PASSED AND DULY ADOPTED by the Board of County Commissioners of Sarasota County, Florida, this _____ day of _____, 2003.

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
OF SARASOTA COUNTY, FLORIDA

By:_____
Chairman

ATTEST:

KAREN E. RUSHING, Clerk of Circuit Court
and Ex-Officio Clerk of the
Board of County Commissioners of
Sarasota County, Florida

By: _____
Deputy Clerk

GOLF DRIVING RANGE

Layout

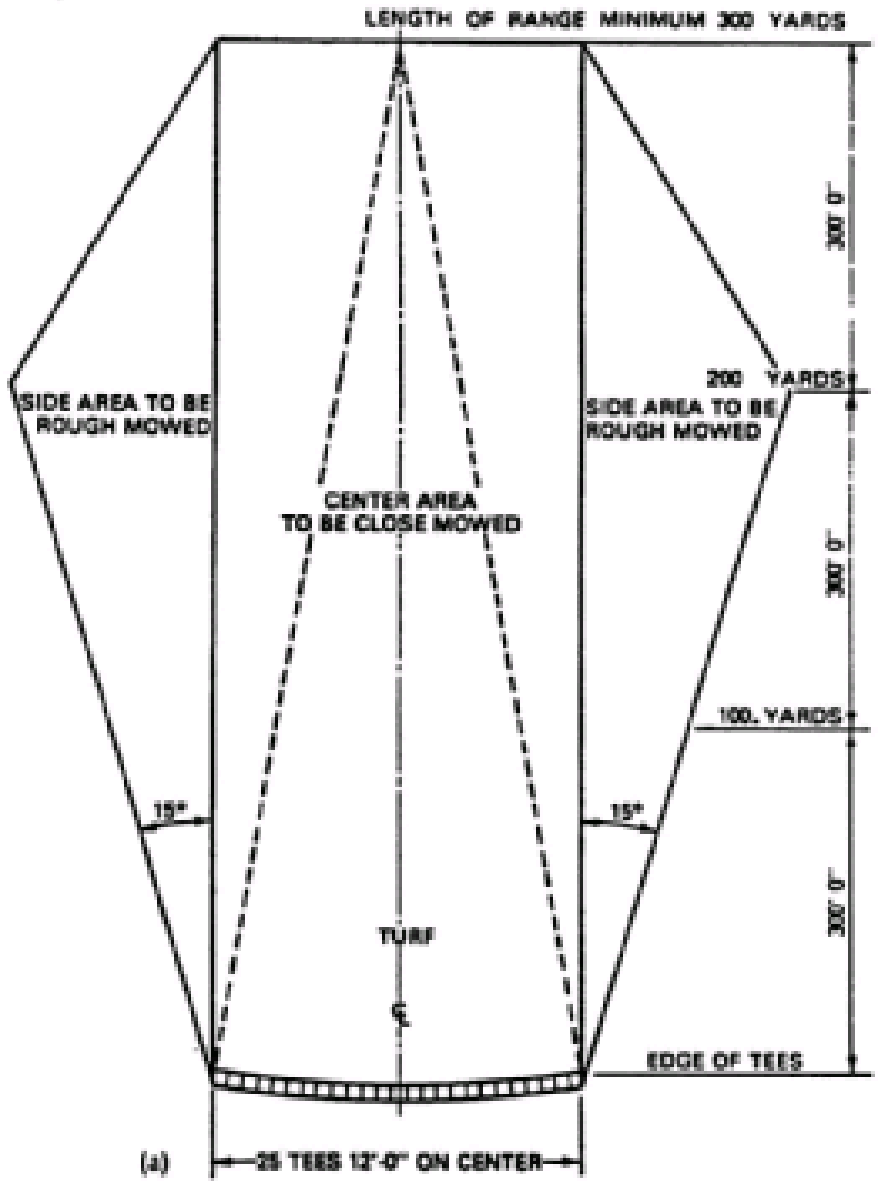
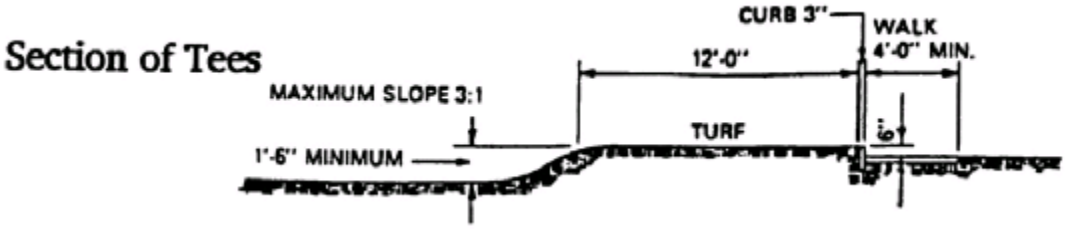


Figure 1


Section of Tees
CURB 3"
WALK
4'-0" MIN.
12'-0"
MAXIMUM SLOPE 3:1
TURF
6"
1'-6" MINIMUM

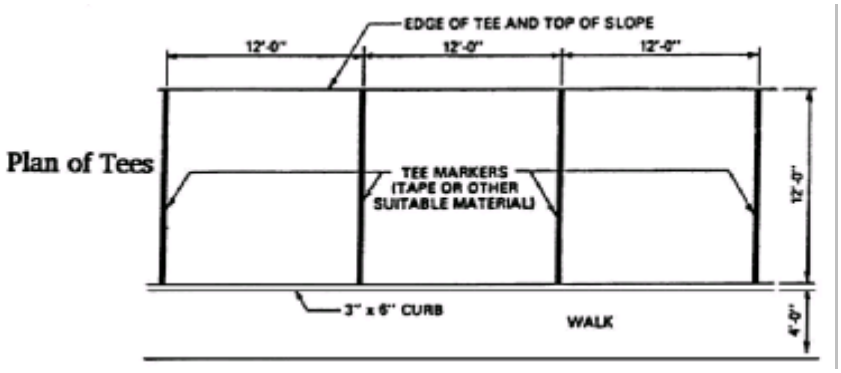

Plan of Tees
EDGE OF TEE AND TOP OF SLOPE
12'-0"
12'-0"
12'-0"
TEE MARKERS
(TAPE OR OTHER
SUITABLE MATERIAL)
12'-0"
3" x 6" CURB
WALK
4'-0"

Figure 2