

## BEACHWALK ECOLOGICAL COVENANTS

3 June 1994

The Beachwalk community is blessed with a rare and beautiful ecological setting, the dunes of Lake Michigan. To retain this special character, Beachwalk requires that its community members select grasses, shrubs, bushes, and trees from indigenous species. Lawns are prohibited for homes at Beachwalk, although they may be provided for community putting greens, bocci courts, and croquet, etc.

### Section 1 - Tree Plantings

#### Article 1 - Shade trees

All shade trees planted within Beachwalk shall be chosen from the following:

Gleditsia triacanthus inermis Skyline - Honey Locust

Crataegus crus-galli - Thornless Hawthorne

Cercis canadensis - Eastern Redbud

Amelanchier arborea "Lamarckii" - Service Berry

These four tree species conform to a native aesthetic and are the backbone of the large scale planting undertaken by Beachwalk. The Honey Locust is used as the main Boulevard tree; Service Berry, Hawthorn, and Redbud as medium-scale shade trees.

Shade trees planted within a private lot must be chosen from the above list, or a careful investigation of native tree species be made in order to conform to the flora of the dunes. Exception can be granted by the Architectural and Ecological Review Committee.

#### Article 2 - Evergreen trees

The choice for evergreen trees within Beachwalk has been the Douglas Fir, picked for its hardiness under the unique conditions of the dune environment.

Other choices for evergreen trees could include the Austrian pine, or Jack pine, as these trees are either native to the dunes or conform aesthetically to the Beachwalk environment.

Again, if making a choice outside these recommendations, consult literature on the dunes in order to make an informed decision. Exceptions can be granted by the Architectural and Ecological Review Committee.

### Section 2 - Property Plantings

All private grounds will maintain and enforce the drift system of Marram (dune) grass as it travels through the property.

The grass drifts are a central design element and are meant to move freely across the property lines and easements. Physically the drifts have been designed to maintain the existing topography of dune sand and protect the wild flowers within them. Aesthetically, the drifts are a continuance of the native plantings both in substance and configuration.

Other grasses that are of a vernacular or native variety may be used to enhance the existing dune grass or for other areas of the property. Annual and perennial flowers and other plantings can be done in areas not occupied by native plants. If shrubs are desired on the lot, it is requested that they be chosen from the abundant native varieties found within the dunes environment or from the plants native to the Indiana area in general. Exceptions can be granted by the Architectural and Ecological Review Committee.

If you are in need of information on which plants are native to the area, a large resource of information can be found in the book, *Dune Country: A guide for hikers and naturalists*, available from Glenda Daniel-Swallow Press. This and many other helpful books can be found at the Indiana Dunes Visitors center on Kemil Road just west of Beverly Shores on Highway #12. For other additional information, contact the Beachwalk Information Office