**GARDNER COMMUNITY WATER ASSOCIATION, INC.**

 **WATER USERS AGREEMENT**

This agreement between the Gardner Community Water Association, Inc, a non-profit corporation, hereinafter called the Association, and \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_a member of the Association hereinafter called the member.

A MEMBER, who desires to purchase water from the Association, must enter into a water user’s agreement as required by the by-laws of the Association.

 THEREFORE, in consideration of the actual agreements herein contained, it is hereby understood and agreed:

The association shall furnish, subject to the limitations set out in Rules and Regulations and By-laws and those hereinafter provided for such quality of water as the Member may desire in connection with his occupancy of the following described property: (please give address in space provided).

 \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

The Member hereby grants the Association, its successors or assigns, a perpetual easement in, over, under and upon the above described land with the right to erect, construct, install, and lay, and thereafter use, operate, and inspect, repair maintain, replace and remove water pipelines and appurtenant facilities, together with the right of ingress and egress over and adjacent land for the purpose mentioned above. The width of said easement shall be not less than 10 feet from the road right of way.

The Member shall install and maintain at his own expense a service line which shall begin at the meter and extend to the dwelling or place of use. The service line shall connect with the distribution system of the Association at the nearest place of desired use by the Member, provided the Association has determined in advance that the system is of sufficient capacity to permit delivery of water at that point.

The Member agrees to pay a non-refundable membership fee and on new installations, the cost of meter installation, for water at such rates, time and place as shall be determined by the Association, and agrees to the penalties for non-compliance with the above as set out in the current Rules and Regulations. Persons who are renting property will be subject to an additional refundable deposit.

The Association shall purchase and install a cutoff valve and may also include a water meter in each service. The association shall have exclusive right to use such cutoff valve and water meter.

The association shall have final jurisdiction in any question of location of any service line connection to its distribution system: shall determine the allocation of water to members in the event of a water shortage: may shut off water to a Member who allows a connection of extension to be made to his service line for the purpose of supplying water to another user. In the event the total water supply shall be insufficient to meet all of the needs of the Members, or in the event there is a shortage of water, the Association may prorate the water available among the various Members on such basis as is deemed equitable by the Board of Directors, and may also prescribe a schedule of hours covering the use of water for garden purposes by particular Members and require adherence thereto or prohibit the use of water for garden purposes: provided that, if at any time the total water supply shall be insufficient to meet all of the needs of all of the members, the Association must first satisfy all of the needs of all members for domestic purposes before supplying any water for livestock purposes and must satisfy all the needs of all Members for both domestic and livestock purposes before supplying any water for garden purposes.

The Member agrees to comply with the requirement of the Louisiana State Board of Health that no other present or future source of water will be connected to any water lines served by the Association’s water lines and will disconnect from his present water supply prior to connecting to and switching to the Association’s system.

The Member shall connect his service lines to the Association’s meter and shall commence to use water from the system on the date that the water is made available to the Member by the Association. Water charges to the Member shall commence on the date that the service is made available. Member also agrees to only one residence per meter.

The Board of Directors shall have the authority to sell the membership of any Member in the event of non-payment of any charges or assessments owing by said Member within thirty (30) days after demand for payment by mail, properly addressed to such delinquent Members. The proceeds of any sale of membership over and above the amount due the Association shall be paid to the delinquent member. In lieu of such sale of membership, the Board of Directors may purchase the membership on behalf of the Association at a price determined by the Board to be the fair value of the membership, provided that in the event of either a sale of the membership or the purchase thereof by the association the proceeds shall be first applied to the payment of any indebtedness due the Association by the delinquent member.

In the event the member shall breach this contract by (1) refusing or failing, without just cause, to connect his service line to the Association’s distribution system as set forth above, or (2) refusing or failing without just cause, to pay minimum monthly water rate as established by the Association, upon the occurrence of either of said events, the Member agrees to forfeit his membership fee.

The failure of a customer to pay water charges duly imposed shall result in the automatic imposition of the following penalties:

(1) Nonpayment within Fifteen days from the due date (1st) will be subject to a penalty of five percent of the delinquent account.

(2) Nonpayment within five days from the 15th will result in the water being shut off from the customer’s property.

(3) In the event it becomes necessary for the Association to shut off the water from a customer’s property, a fee of $50.00 will be charged for a re-connection of the service.

(4) There will be a $25.00 service charge on returned checks.

(5) There will be a $10.00 charge for re-reading of meters when prior reading is correct.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, we have hereunto executed this agreement this \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ day of

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, 20\_\_\_\_\_.

ATTEST

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Secretary/Treasurer

 \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

 Member Signature

 \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Mailing Address

 \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

 City, State, Zip

 \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

 Phone Number