

Goals & Specifications

The City of Cottonwood received our designation from the International Dark Sky Association in 2019. In order to maintain our designation, we must meet several requirements, including compliance by our businesses and residents by 2028. Each business and residence is allotted a certain number of shielded and unshielded lumens based on the size of the property. Please note the specifications below that need to be followed if any current outdoor lighting is being replaced, changed or updated going forward.

- * Fixtures need to be shielded
- * Light bulbs need to be 3000 kelvins or less (color temperature)
- * If unshielded, lumens per bulb cannot exceed 1500 lumens, this includes outdoor string lights

www.cottonwoodaz.gov/747/Dark-Sky-Community

For additional resources, including our lumen calculation sheets and for more details about our Outdoor Lighting Ordinance - Section 408,

please refer to our website :

www.cottonwoodaz.gov

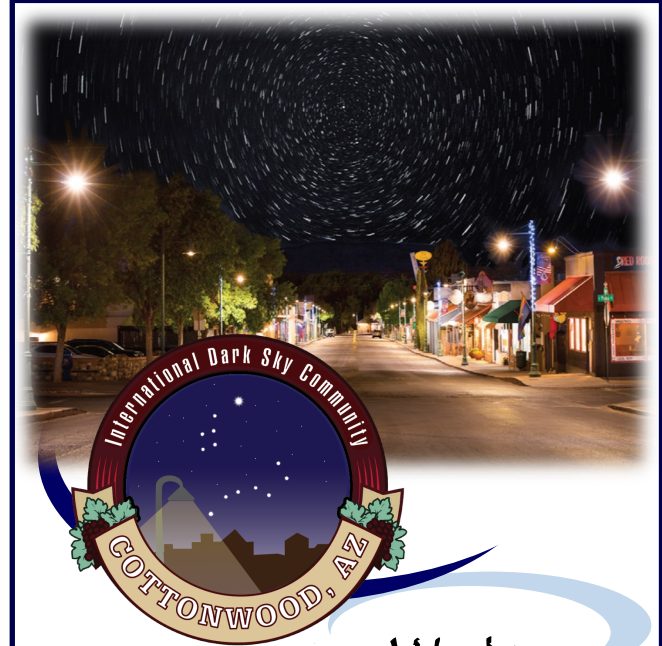


City of Cottonwood

Community Development

111 N Main Street

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Working to
Preserve Our Night Skies
Now and Into the
Future



Photo Credit: Mike Krafft

LIGHT TO PROTECT THE NIGHT

Five Principles for Responsible Outdoor Lighting



USEFUL



ALL LIGHT SHOULD HAVE A CLEAR PURPOSE

Before installing or replacing a light, determine if light is needed. Consider how the use of light will impact the area, including wildlife and the environment. Consider using reflective paints or self-luminous markers for signs, curbs, and steps to reduce the need for permanently installed outdoor lighting.

TARGETED



LIGHT SHOULD BE DIRECTED ONLY TO WHERE NEEDED

Use shielding and careful aiming to target the direction of the light beam so that it points downward and does not spill beyond where it is needed.

LOW LIGHT LEVELS



LIGHT SHOULD BE NO BRIGHTER THAN NECESSARY

Use the lowest light level required. Be mindful of surface conditions as some surfaces may reflect more light into the night sky than intended.

CONTROLLED



LIGHT SHOULD BE USED ONLY WHEN IT IS USEFUL

Use controls such as timers or motion detectors to ensure that light is available when it is needed, dimmed when possible, and turned off when not needed.

COLOR



USE WARMER COLOR LIGHTS WHERE POSSIBLE

Limit the amount of shorter wavelength (blue-violet) light to the least amount needed.