

~ Declaration of Dark Skies ~

We, the people of The Straits of Mackinac Area,
in order to form a more beautiful dark sky community, enhance the health and well-being of the area,
provide economic benefit, and secure the wonder and awe inspired by the night sky do hereby pledge, in
friendly collaboration with our neighbors across the Straits, to:



TURN OFF THE LIGHTS

MONDAY, AUGUST 12, 2013

FROM 10:30 p.m. to 11:30 p.m.

Sunset is at 8:54 p.m. this night

PROUD PARTICIPANT

Cut here; keep top portion to post and show your support! Submit bottom portion to one of the addresses listed below.

What we will do during Lights Out: Headlands International Dark Sky Park staff will measure the quality of darkness attained by each community before and during the Lights Out challenge to determine which community achieved greater darkness. The designated spot for measuring the dark to be determined by the Mayor of the neighboring community.

What you can do: Be sure all artificial outdoor light is extinguished; build a campfire; light candles; tell stories; count the stars; host a meteor shower picnic; celebrate the amazing place you live!

Did you know that an estimated 30% of outdoor light is wasted each year by being spilled up into the sky where it's not needed ~ that's about 22,000 gigawatt hours annually. At \$0.10/hour, this results in a cost of \$2.2 billion each year in wasted light, the equivalent of 3.6 tons of coal or 12.9 million barrels of oil, which translates further into 15.5 million metric tons of unnecessary greenhouse gases.

And for the support of this Declaration, with a firm reliance on the good will of our neighbors,
we mutually pledge to each other to TURN OFF OUR LIGHTS:

Print and sign your name _____

Include your email address if you'd like more information about night-sky events in this area:

_____ (please print clearly!)

Return this form to:

Mackinaw Area Chamber of Commerce, 226 E. Central Avenue, Mackinaw City, MI 49701

St. Ignace Chamber of Commerce, 560 N. State St., St. Ignace, MI 49781

email: darksky@emmetcounty.org • Questions? (231) 348-1713

