# Five Principles for Responsible Outdoor Lighting Practices

## 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.