



Did you know...

Real night no longer exists in hundreds of cities around the world.

What is Light Pollution?

When you talk about pollution, most people think of the contamination of our water or air. But pollution is the introduction of any substance into the environment that has a harmful effect, including light. Inappropriate or excessive use of artificial light is known as light pollution.

Light pollution is a side effect of industrial civilization and includes building exterior and interior lighting, advertising, auto dealerships, offices, factories, streetlights, sporting venues and more.

Much of the lighting used at night is inefficient, overly bright, poorly targeted, improperly shielded, and, in many cases, completely unnecessary. This excess light, and the electricity used to create it, is being wasted by spilling it into the sky and disrupting our planet's natural balance of day and night.

Artificial light has negative impacts on:

- Wildlife and Ecosystems
- Our Health
- Energy Waste
- Crime and Safety
- Our Heritage



Take Action!

Light Pollution effects all of us. You can help stop it!

- Install lighting only when and where it is needed
- Use energy saving features such as timers, dimers and motion sensors on outdoor lights
- Use fully shielded fixtures at home and encourage them at the workplace
- Educate your friends and neighbors about the importance of good lighting for our health, economy and environment.

Visit darksky.org for more information and free resources

Our Mission:

To preserve and protect the nighttime environment and our heritage of dark skies through environmentally responsible outdoor lighting.

Our Goals:

- Create awareness about the growing problem of light pollution and its harmful effects
- Advocate for the protection of the night sky
- Educate the public and policymakers about night sky conservation
- Promote environmentally responsible outdoor lighting
- Empower the public with the tools and resources to help bring back the night



INTERNATIONAL DARK-SKY ASSOCIATION



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Did you know...

1 Light Pollution Devastates Wildlife and our Ecosystem

Plants and animals depend on Earth's daily cycle of light and dark rhythm to govern life-sustaining behaviors such as reproduction, nourishment, sleep and protection from predators.

Scientific evidence suggests that artificial light at night has negative and deadly effects on many creatures including

2 Light Pollution is destroying our heritage

Until recently, for all of human history, our ancestors experienced a sky brimming with stars – a night sky that inspired science, religion, philosophy, art and literature including some of Shakespeare's most famous sonnets.

The natural night sky is our common and universal heritage, yet is rapidly becoming unknown to the newest generations.

3 Brighter does not mean safer

There is no clear scientific evidence that increased outdoor lighting deters crimes. It may make us feel safer, but has not been shown to make us safer.

The truth is bad outdoor lighting can decrease safety by making victims and property easier to see. A 2000 study done by the City of Chicago showed a correlation between brightly lit alleyways and increased crime

4 Exposure to artificial light at night can harm your health

Humans evolved to the rhythms of the natural light-dark cycle of day and night. The spread of artificial lighting means most of us no longer experience truly dark nights.

Research suggests that artificial light at night can negatively affect human health – increasing risks for obesity, depression, sleep disorders, diabetes, breast cancer and more.

5 Light Pollution Wastes Energy and Money

Lighting that emits too much light or shines when and where it is not needed is wasteful. Wasting energy has huge economic and environmental consequences.

Due to light pollution – wasted energy – millions of tons of carbon are pumped into our atmosphere every year. Light pollution increases greenhouse gas emissions, contributes to climate change, and renders us all the more energy dependent.

We are working to preserve the night sky for future generations.

Your dues and donations help us to:

• Promote Environmentally Responsible Outdoor Lighting

Our Fixture Seal of Approval (FSA) program certifies outdoor lighting fixtures that minimize glare, reduce light trespass, and don't pollute the night sky.

• Foster Education and Outreach

We educate communities and public officials about negative impacts of light pollution and provide specific solutions. We accomplish this through conferences, advocacy, public outreach, publications, and free resources on our website.

• Recognize and Preserve Dark Sky Places

The International Dark Sky Places conservation program recognizes and promotes excellent stewardship of the night sky. We have certified 36 places in nine countries.

• Assist Parks and Protected Areas

IDA provides dark-sky-friendly lamps and fixtures for free or at substantially discounted prices to parks, nature reserves, and similar sites.

• Protect Wildlife and Ecosystems

We work directly with conservation experts and park officials to minimize the ecological impact of artificial lighting in the world's wild spaces, protecting birds, fireflies, sea turtles, and other affected flora and fauna.

Together we can reduce light pollution in our cities and work toward a well-lit future

Join the IDA community and help us reclaim the night!

Join IDA

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____

State: _____ Zip: _____ Country: _____

Email: _____

Phone: _____

Pay by: Check (payable to IDA) Credit Card Cash

Card Number: _____

Expiration Date: _____

Card Holder: _____

Signature: _____

Membership Level:*

\$35** \$500

\$50 \$1,000

\$100 \$5,000

\$250 \$10,000

I would like to make an additional donation.

\$ _____

Donate

I do not want to become a member but would like to make a tax deductible donation.

\$ _____

Thank you for your support.

Your IDA membership is considered a tax-exempt donation.

*Membership dues are annual unless otherwise indicated.

**The \$35 dollar membership is electronic only