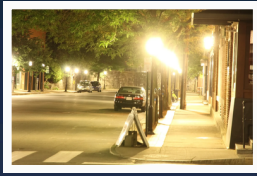
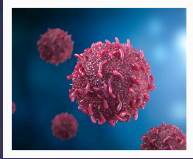


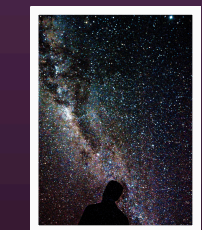
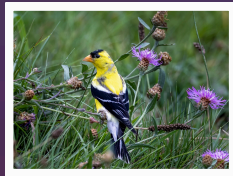
Safety: Over-lighting and glare from lights without proper shielding, can make it difficult to see.



Health: Exposure to artificial light at night can disrupt our sleep cycles and immune system function, endangering health and increasing cancer risk.



Wildlife: Light pollution affects animals' ability to navigate, pollinate, hunt, and reproduce. Birds may become disoriented by excessive lighting, leading to collisions.



Wonder: Lessening light pollution makes it so we can all enjoy the beauty and inspiration of the night sky.



It is easy to go inside and forget about the effects of light pollution on the world outside.

Northampton and many other municipalities have established bylaws to address artificial light at night. This pamphlet is intended to help you understand and comply with the Northampton ordinance with small changes.



Scan QR code to access resources below:

Northampton City Lights
DarkSky International
Northampton Zoning Code Section
350-12.2

NORTHAMPTON OUTDOOR LIGHTING



A guide to the
Northampton, MA
outdoor lighting ordinance

Produced in consultation
with City of Northampton
Planning and Sustainability

What you can do:

- Ensure light fixtures **shield** the bulbs, preventing light from shining upwards or sideways.
- Use bulbs that are warmer (more amber) colors with a light appearance of **1800-2700K** and the lowest possible lumens (brightness). Maximums vary by zoning.
- **Turn outdoor lights off** when not actively being used. Use motion sensors, dimmers, and timers. Businesses must turn lights off 1 hour after closing.
- Change the direction of outdoor lights so they illuminate only within your property. **Light trespass, glare, and uplighting are prohibited.**

Glare from streetlights affecting your residence may be able to be addressed through shielding. Contact Central Services Department at **(413) 587-1238** to request a streetlight modification. Requests are evaluated case by case.



Examples of light trespass, uplighting, and glare



Light fixture tips



Security: More light is not necessarily safer. Studies have shown lights do not deter criminal activity.

Glare can make it hard to see people or things in the shadows just outside the light.

Properly designed light that is warmer and directed down without glare allows our eyes to adjust to the dark.