

What are the adverse effects of excessive nighttime lighting ?

Light Trespass

You're invading my space!

Light trespass involves light shining where it is not wanted .. in other people's yards, in your neighbour's windows and onto the street and into motorist's eyes. It falls in the same category as having your stereo so loud that your neighbours can hear it !

Urban Sky Glow

Night light

The dome of unshielded light that rises above towns and cities is called urban sky glow. It blocks out the views of the dark night sky and our home galaxy, the Milky Way.

Loss of a natural wonder

Mommy, what are those bright things in the sky?

Poor lighting practices are responsible for eliminating the ability to experience a beautiful star-studded sky. In Southern Ontario, a generation of young people are growing up without ever having seen the Milky Way !

Adverse health effects

You're breaking my circadian rhythm

Recent research has shown that interfering with the normal cycle of light and dark can compromise the immune system and result in adverse health effects.

Impact on Wildlife

Improper night lighting:

- disrupts the night vision of migrating birds
- disturbs the life cycle of frogs and some insects which feed birds and amphibians
- inhibits the lives of many nocturnal species of animals and birds such as owls

Why is a Dark Sky so Important ?

Historical and Cultural Significance

Our Place in the Universe

For thousands of years the night sky has shaped much of man's mythology, our calendars, our rituals and our architecture. Our understanding of the universe has followed our observation of the dark sky. Access to the natural night sky must be preserved in rural areas such as the Northern Bruce Peninsula.

A World Wide Movement

Dark Sky Communities are Growing

Northern Bruce Peninsula will join a network of dark sky areas ringing Georgian Bay including Manitoulin Island, Torrance Barrens in Muskoka, as well as many other parts of North America and the World.



For more information on dark sky preservation and good neighbour lighting, please visit the web site: www.darksky.org

Special thanks to:

Graham Thomas, Doug Cunningham

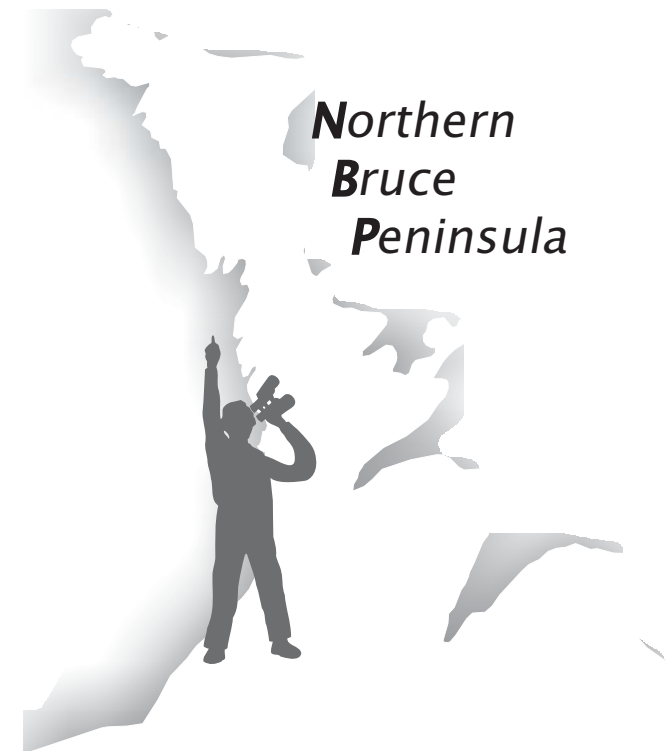
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Preserving Dark Sky with Good Neighbour Lighting

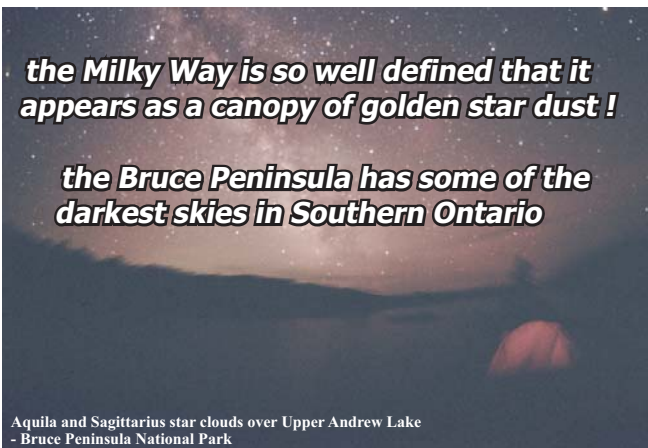


'Northern Bruce Peninsula has some of the darkest skies in Southern Ontario'

Northern Bruce Peninsula Blessed with nature's attractions!



But We Could Add... Our dark night time sky !



Is your outdoor lighting dark-sky friendly?

- ★ Increases night visibility
 - ★ Improves safety
 - ★ Provides a sense of security
- while**
- ★ Minimizing energy use
 - ★ Lowering electricity bills
 - ★ Directing the light only to where it is needed
 - ★ Eliminating light trespass and annoying glare
 - ★ Not shedding excess light onto neighbours

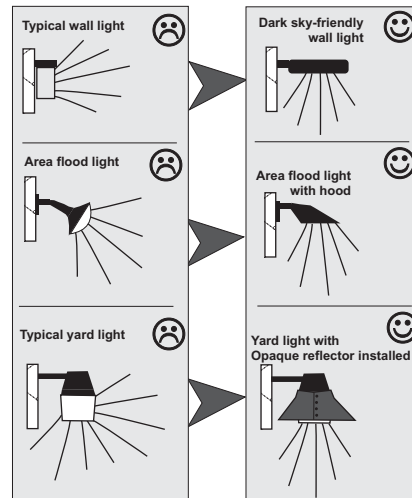
'Consider your neighbour's right to a Dark Sky Night'

Full cutoff shield streetlights



'We can work together to preserve our beautiful dark night sky'

Make your lights dark sky-friendly!



What are the adverse effects of excessive nighttime lighting ?

Are you Wasting Energy?

Reduce your outdoor energy lighting usage by 80%!

A 55 Watt low pressure sodium light will produce the same degree of illumination as a typical "dawn to dusk" 175 Watt mercury vapour light... at 1/3 the cost.

Even better,

A full shielded 35 Watt low pressure sodium light will shed more useful light than the 175 Watt mercury vapour light ... at 1/5 the cost!

Glare

I am blinded by the light!

Unshielded lights produce glare .. glare occurs when the light source shines directly in your eyes.

Glare actually reduces night vision and hinders rather than helps any discerning vision.

