

**SUBMITTAL TO THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
COUNTY OF RIVERSIDE, STATE OF CALIFORNIA**



FROM: Supervisor John Tavaglione

SUBMITTAL DATE: October 25, 2011

SUBJECT: Riverside County Ordinance No. 915 Regulating Outdoor Lighting

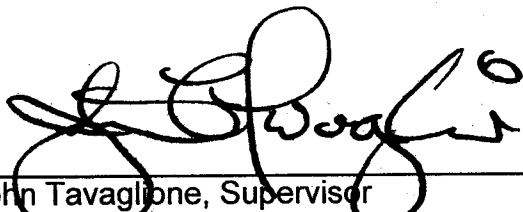
RECOMMENDED MOTION: That the Board of Supervisors :

1. Introduce and set for public hearing Ordinance No. 915, an Ordinance of the County of Riverside Regulating Outdoor Lighting;
2. Authorize the Clerk of the Board to place an advertisement for a public hearing in the appropriate local publications; and
3. Upon the close of the public hearing, adopt Ordinance No. 915.

BACKGROUND: In 1988, the Board of Supervisors passed Riverside County Ordinance No. 655 to restrict the permitted use of certain light fixtures emitting into the night sky undesirable light rays which have a detrimental effect on astronomical observation and research conducted at the Palomar Observatory. With such intent, Ordinance No. 655 only regulated outdoor lighting within a forty-five (45) mile radius of the Palomar Observatory and did not specifically address the nuisance created by light trespass.

Light trespass occurs when light fixture on one property falls across a property line onto another lot or parcel of land or onto a public right-of-way. Light trespass results in a waste of natural resources and at certain levels may jeopardize the health, safety or welfare of Riverside County residents.

(continued on Page 2)




 John Tavaglione, Supervisor
 Second District

MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

On motion of Supervisor Tavaglione, seconded by Supervisor Ashley and duly carried by unanimous vote, IT WAS ORDERED that the above ordinance is approved as introduced with waiver of reading and is set for public hearing November 15, 2011 at 1:30 p.m.

Ayes: Buster, Tavaglione, Stone, Benoit and Ashley
 Nays: None
 Absent: None
 Date: October 25, 2011
 xc: Supvr. Tavaglione, COB

Kecia Harper-Ihem
 Clerk of the Board
 By: 
 Deputy

Prev. Agn. Ref.

District: Second | Agenda Number:

3.2

FORM APPROVED COUNTY COUNSEL
 BY: 
 BRUCE G. FORDON
 DATE: 10/24/11

The Honorable Board of Supervisors

Re: Riverside County Ordinance No. 915 Regulating Outdoor Lighting.

October 25, 2011

Currently, the Riverside County Zoning Ordinance No. 348 addresses light trespass in a limited fashion and only in particular zones. The proposed ordinance would establish a countywide standard for outdoor lighting that would generally prohibit light trespass. Existing nonconforming outdoor light fixtures that were not regulated by previously enacted development standards would be authorized for a limited amortization period. Additionally consideration will be given to limited exceptions when appropriate, e.g. law enforcement activities.

Pursuant to Board Policy A-67, initiation of Ordinance No. 915 was approved by the Board of Supervisors on October 19, 2010 as Item No. 3.1

The High Cost of Lights --- Energy Usage Only

#Hours/Day:	8	10	12	14
Wattage				
60	480	600	720	840
100	800	1,000	1,200	1,400
150	1,200	1,500	1,800	2,100
300	2,400	3,000	3,600	4,200
500	4,000	5,000	6,000	7,000

Wattage	Killowatts/Day			
60	0.48	0.60	0.72	0.84
100	0.80	1.00	1.20	1.40
150	1.20	1.50	1.80	2.10
300	2.40	3.00	3.60	4.20
500	4.00	5.00	6.00	7.00

Wattage	Cost/Day @ \$.30/Killowatt			
60	\$0.14	\$0.18	\$0.22	\$0.25
100	\$0.24	\$0.30	\$0.36	\$0.42
150	\$0.36	\$0.45	\$0.54	\$0.63
300	\$0.72	\$0.90	\$1.08	\$1.26
500	\$1.20	\$1.50	\$1.80	\$2.10

Wattage	Cost/Month (30/Days/Month)			
60	\$4.32	\$5.40	\$6.48	\$7.56
100	\$7.20	\$9.00	\$10.80	\$12.60
150	\$10.80	\$13.50	\$16.20	\$18.90
300	\$21.60	\$27.00	\$32.40	\$37.80
500	\$36.00	\$45.00	\$54.00	\$63.00

Wattage	Cost/Year			
60	\$51.84	\$64.80	\$77.76	\$90.72
100	\$86.40	\$108.00	\$129.60	\$151.20
150	\$129.60	\$162.00	\$194.40	\$226.80
300	\$259.20	\$324.00	\$388.80	\$453.60
500	\$432.00	\$540.00	\$648.00	\$756.00

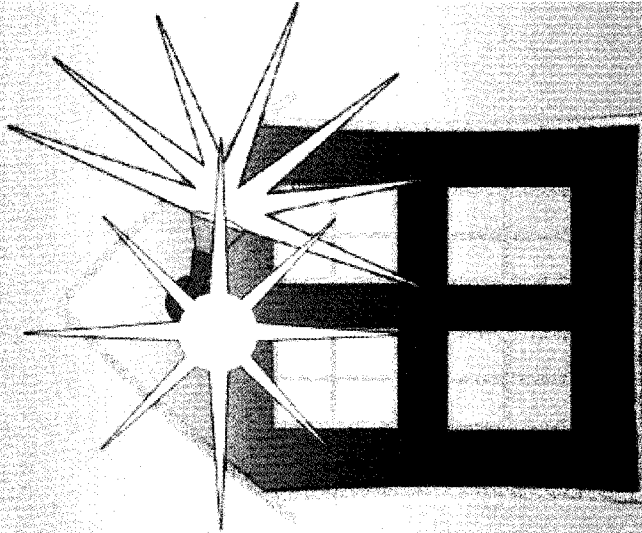
Example: A More "Thoughtful" Use of Lighting

Old	Per Year
3-150 Watt Floods and 1-500 Watt Monster / 12 Hours/Day	\$1,231.20
1-300 Watt Monster / 12 Hours/Day	\$388.80
4-100 Watt Front Lights / 12 Hours/Day	\$518.40
Total	\$2,138.40

New	Per Year
3-60 Watt Floods and 1-60 "Monster" / 12 Hours/Day	\$311.04
1-60 Watt / 12 Hours/Day	\$77.76
4-60 Watt Front Lights / 12 Hours/Day	\$311.04
Total	\$699.84

Savings \$1,438.56

Unshielded lights
produce glare,
light trespass,
and uplight

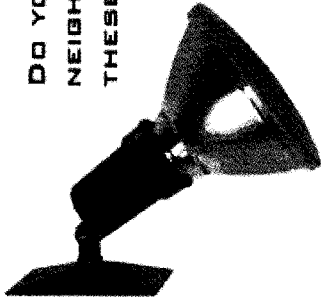


Stop glare, waste, and trespass

*Be good neighbors
shield your lights!*

Parshield® Glare Visor

The dark sky friendly
shield for PAR bulbs.



DO YOU OR YOUR
NEIGHBORS HAVE
THESE?

The patented Parshield® glare visor

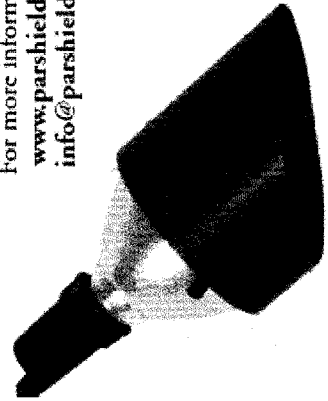
- Prevents glare and improves visibility.
- Redirects lights that would be wasted to useful directions.
- Reduces light trespass so your lights don't annoy neighbors.
- Reduces sky glow by preventing uplight.

The Parshield glare visor snaps securely onto standard outdoor floodlights and spotlights (PAR-38 style).

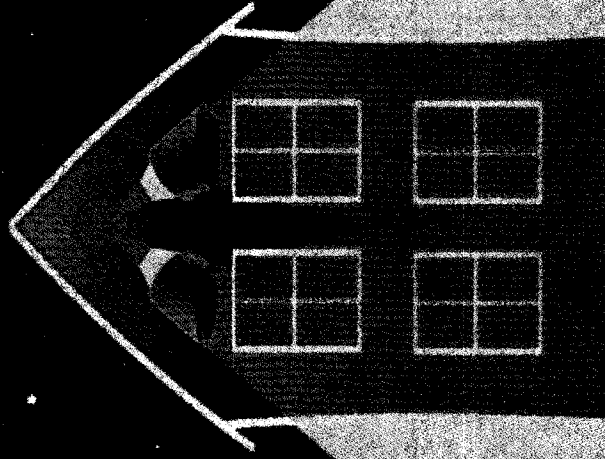
Reusable, powder coated, all metal construction. Available in bronze or white. Includes instructions and light pollution information. Bulb and fixture not included.

Currently \$30 for Two

For more information:
www.parshield.com
info@parshield.com



Shielded lights
prevent glare,
stop trespass,
and light the ground



Lighting done right

*Be good neighbors
shield your lights!*



Shopping Cart

Starry Night Lights

You May Reach Us Via Email At: Sales@StarryNightLights.com

FREE SHIPPING!
continental U.S.
residential orders
over \$100

Google Custom Search

[Interior Lighting](#)

[Outdoor Lighting](#)

[Landscape Lighting](#)

[Commercial Lighting](#)

[Shop by Brand](#)

[Shop by Room](#)

LIGHTING BLOG

[Auroxa Borealis lights up Iceland](#)

[Building lights in Seoul off by 11 p.m.](#)

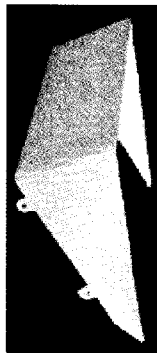
[Light Pollution Erases the Stars From Urban Night Skies](#)

LIGHT POLLUTION

Light pollution from improper outdoor lighting wastes billions of dollars and vast quantities of natural resources annually. Starry Night Lights is committed to fighting light pollution and restoring our heritage of star-filled skies. We offer the widest selection of night sky friendly outdoor lighting for your home or business.

[Home](#) > [RAB Light Fixtures](#) > [RAB Lighting](#) - WALLPACK CUTOFF VISORS - (rab-swp1cfw)

RAB Lighting - WALLPACK CUTOFF VISORS - (rab-swp1cfw)



Item #: rab-swp1cfw

List Price: \$10.00

Quantity: 1



Add extra glare shielding to your RAB Wallpack fixture with easy to attach visors for full cutoff or blinders for side cutoff.

Shade: Die formed aluminum with stainless steel mounting hardware. Supplied with instructions for easy mounting.

Finish: Chip and fade resistant polyester powder coating.

Patents: RAB sensor and fixture designs are protected under U.S. and International Intellectual Property laws

Die formed aluminum blinder blocks side glare. Visor offers IESNA inFull Cutoff; Fully Shielded light distribution. Limits glare and concentrates light downward. Blinders reduce light and glare to both sides while allowing forward throw.

Watts: N/A

Lamp Type:

Lamp Type Code: WHITE

Lamp Base: 0.3

Ballast:

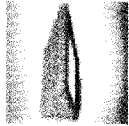
AMPS120: <http://www.rabweb.com/common/catalog/install/WVISOR.pdf>

AMPS208: <http://www.rabweb.com/common/catalog/pages/WVISOR.pdf>

See our entire collection of quality outdoor lighting products from [RAB Lighting](#)

<http://store.starrynightlights.com/rab-swp1cfw.html>

FEATURED ITEMS



Glarebuster the original dark sky friendly light.



Wall Sconces JDG sconces in many colors and finishes



Wall Mounts SPJ copper or brass exterior wall mounts

NEW ITEMS



Table Lamps for any style home



Ceiling Lights Brighten any area

Sign up for our free email newsletter and receive an instant

10% Discount
off your purchase!

★ Green Earth Lighting ★

★ Formerly
★ Outdoor Lighting Associates ★

http://www.greenearthlighting.com/gel_effective_lighting_011.htm

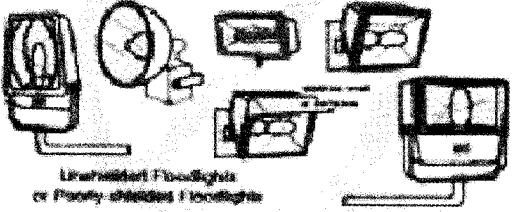
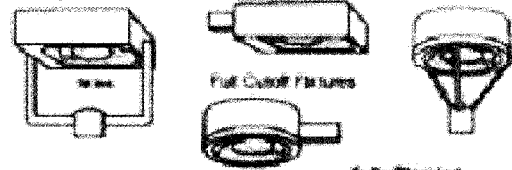
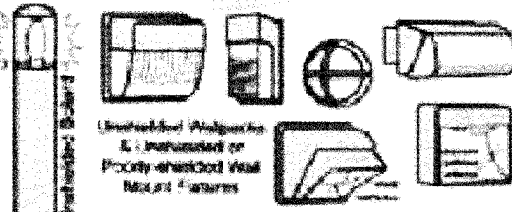
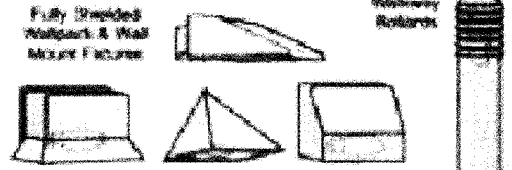
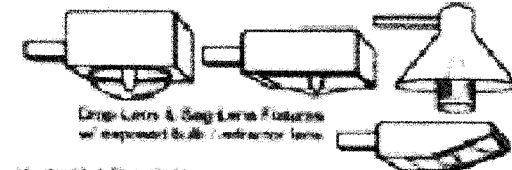
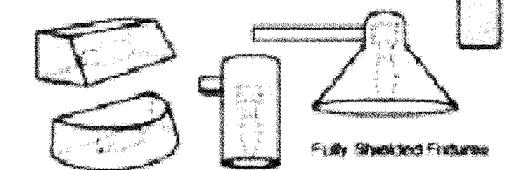









Effective Outdoor Lighting

Glare	Safety	Security	Light Trespass	Health & Environment	Energy Dollars
Solutions	Fixtures	Security Lights	Resources	Better Lighting Guide	Bibliography

Better Lighting Guide

BETTER LIGHTS FOR BETTER NIGHTS

Help eliminate light pollution. Select the best fixture for your application using this guide. Use the lowest wattage bulb appropriate for the task and turn off the light when it's not being used.

Unacceptable / Discouraged Fixtures that produce glare and light escapes	Acceptable Fixtures that shield the light source to minimize glare and light trespass and to facilitate better vision at night
 <p>Unshielded Floodlights or Poorly-shielded Floodlights</p>	 <p>Full Cutoff Fixtures</p>
 <p>Unshielded Wallpacks & Unshielded or Poorly-shielded Wall Mount Fixtures</p>	 <p>Fully Shielded Wallpack & Wall Mount Fixtures</p>
 <p>Deep Lens & Shallow Lens Fixtures w/ exposed bulb / reflector lens</p>	 <p>Fully Shielded Fixtures</p>
 <p>Unshielded Streetlight</p>	 <p>Full Cutoff Streetlight</p>
 <p>Unshielded Security Light</p>	 <p>Fully Shielded Security Light</p>
 <p>Unshielded PAR Floodlights</p>	 <p>Fully Shielded Parol Style Fixtures w/ glass enclosure</p>
 <p>Deep Lens Canopy Fixtures</p>	 <p>Shielded / Properly-aimed PAR Floodlights</p>
	 <p>Flush Mounted Canopy Fixtures</p>

CALIFORNIA: Laser regulations

California Penal Code Sections [247.5](#), [248](#), [417.25](#), [417.26](#) and [417.27](#).

Section 247.5

Any person who willfully and maliciously discharges a laser at an aircraft, whether in motion or in flight, while occupied, is guilty of a violation of this section, which shall be punishable as either a misdemeanor by imprisonment in the county jail for not more than one year or by a fine of one thousand dollars (\$1,000), or a felony by imprisonment in the state prison for 16 months, two years, or three years, or by a fine of two thousand dollars (\$2,000). This section does not apply to the conduct of laser development activity by or on behalf of the United States Armed Forces.

As used in this section, "aircraft" means any contrivance intended for and capable of transporting persons through the airspace.

As used in this section, "laser" means a device that utilizes the natural oscillations of atoms or molecules between energy levels for generating coherent electromagnetic radiation in the ultraviolet, visible, or infrared region of the spectrum, and when discharged exceeds one milliwatt continuous wave.

Section 248

Any person who, with the intent to interfere with the operation of an aircraft, willfully shines a light or other bright device, of an intensity capable of impairing the operation of an aircraft, at an aircraft, shall be punished by a fine not exceeding one thousand dollars (\$1,000), or by imprisonment in a county jail not exceeding one year, or by both that fine and imprisonment.

Section 417.25

(a) Every person who, except in self-defense, aims or points a laser scope, as defined in subdivision (b), or a laser pointer, as defined in subdivision (c), at another person in a threatening manner with the specific intent to cause a reasonable person fear of bodily harm is guilty of a misdemeanor, punishable by imprisonment in a county jail for up to 30 days. For purposes of this section, the laser scope need not be attached to a firearm.

(b) As used in this section, "laser scope" means a portable battery-powered device capable of being attached to a firearm and capable of projecting a laser light on objects at a distance.

(c) As used in this section, "laser pointer" means any hand held laser beam device or demonstration laser product that emits a single point of light amplified by the stimulated emission of radiation that is visible to the human eye.

Section 417.26

(a) Any person who aims or points a laser scope as defined in subdivision (b) of Section 417.25, or a laser pointer, as defined in subdivision (c) of that section, at a peace officer with the specific intent to cause the officer apprehension or fear of bodily harm and who knows or reasonably should know that the person at whom he or she is aiming or pointing is a peace officer, is guilty of a misdemeanor punishable by imprisonment in a county jail for a term not exceeding six months.

(b) Any person who commits a second or subsequent violation of subdivision (a) shall be punished by imprisonment in a county jail for not more than one year.

Section 417.27

(a) No person, corporation, firm, or business entity of any kind shall knowingly sell a laser pointer to a person 17 years of age or younger, unless he or she is accompanied and supervised by a parent, legal guardian, or any other adult 18 years of age or older.

(b) No student shall possess a laser pointer on any elementary or secondary school premises unless possession of a laser pointer on the elementary or secondary school premises is for a valid instructional or other school-related purpose, including employment.

(c) No person shall direct the beam from a laser pointer directly or indirectly into the eye or eyes of another person or into a moving vehicle with the intent to harass or annoy the other person or the occupants of the moving vehicle.

(d) No person shall direct the beam from a laser pointer directly or indirectly into the eye or eyes of a guide dog, signal dog, service dog, or dog being used by a peace officer with the intent to harass or annoy the animal.

(e) A violation of subdivision (a), (b), (c), or (d) shall be an infraction that is punished by either a fine of fifty dollars (\$50) or four hours of community service, and a second or subsequent violation of any of these subdivisions shall be an infraction that is punished by either a fine of one hundred dollars (\$100) or eight hours of community service.

(f) As used in this section, "laser pointer" has the same meaning as set forth in subdivision (c) of Section 417.25.

(g) As used in this section, "guide dog," "signal dog," and "service dog," respectively, have the same meaning as set forth in subdivisions (d), (e), and (f) of Section 365.5.



International Dark-Sky Association

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

3223 North First Avenue, Tucson, AZ 85719, USA
tel +1.520.293.319 | fax +1.520.293.3192
www.darksky.org | ida@darksky.org

October 24, 2011

Executive Director
Bob Parks

Emeritus
David L. Crawford, PhD

4080 Lemon St.
Riverside, California 92501

To The Riverside County Board of Supervisors:

I was pleased to hear that Riverside County considering the possibility to adopt a statute to include a provision on light trespass.

As a former employee of the Palomar Observatory and a current member of the staff of the International Dark-Sky Association, I can tell you that setting legal limits on light trespass would be a welcome addition for both the observatory and the residents of Riverside County.


Curbing light trespass will make Riverside County a better place to live. The light that leads to light trespass, just like noise pollution, can have a dramatic negative impact on neighbors. Elimination of light trespass would also help to make the County more energy efficient by removing wasted light that isn't doing what it was intended to do.

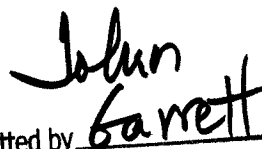
In reviewing the text of Ordinance No. 915 it seems that the Background section says that "Light trespass occurs when light fixture on one property falls across a property line...". I realize that there is a definitions section later, but nowhere should anyone feel that a light *fixture* crossing property lines produces light trespass.

I would suggests that in Section 7 (DETERMINATION OF LIGHT TRESPASS) the wording could be more clear as to who is allowed to make the observation that makes the determination as to if there is light trespass or not. It is not clear if that would only be an enforcement officer witnessing the infraction or if the complaining party would be allowed to bring evidence forward personally to prove the point.

I am sure that there may be minor adjustments to the measure, but the International Dark-Sky Association strongly encourages the Riverside County Board of Supervisors to move forward by adopting provisions to eliminate light trespass.

Sincerely,


W. Scott Kardel
International Dark-Sky Association



Submitted by Garrett
10/25/11 (date) Item 3.2

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Dear Mr. Buster and Riverside County Supervisors,

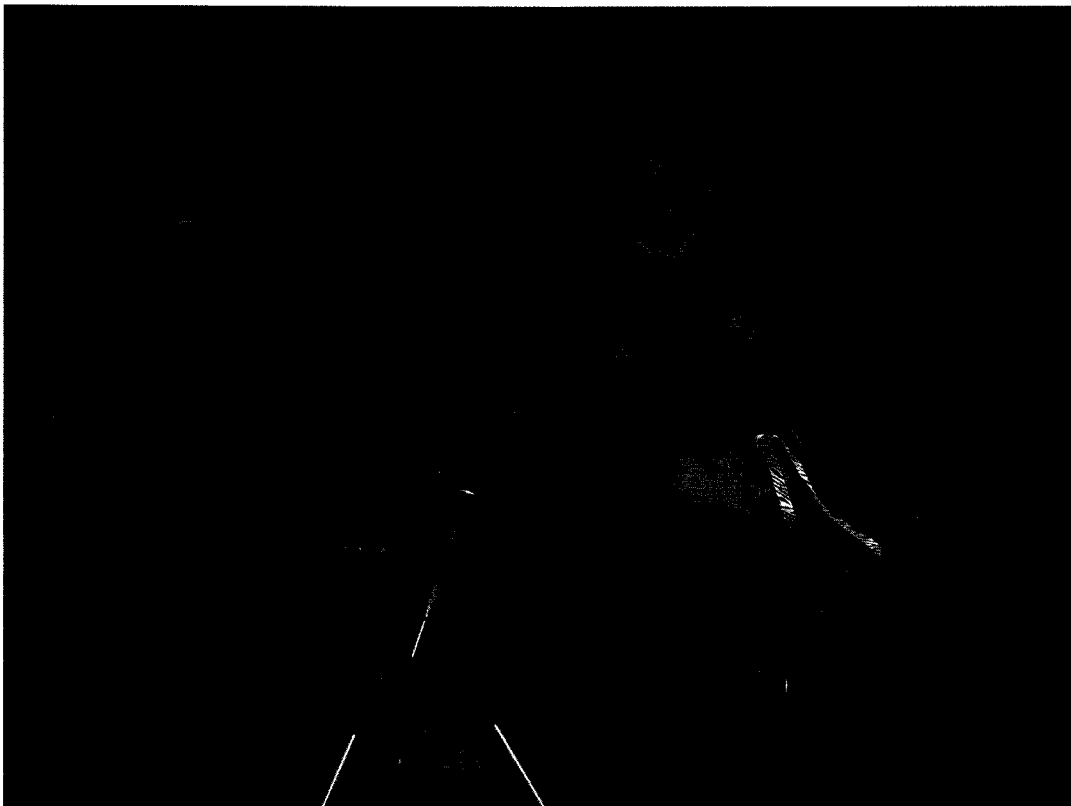
My name is Irene Trovato, I'm the leader of Girl Scout Troop 1124 (Lake Elsinore, CA). GS Troop 1124 is home to 42 girls from Lake Elsinore, Wildomar, Perris and the surrounding area. The girls of Troop 1124 enjoy and appreciate our local resources-camping, hiking, bird-watching....and astronomy. I've attached a photo from a recent event held with the Temecula Valley Astronomy (TVA) group. The TVA introduced the girls to the moons of Jupiter, the rings of Saturn and the surface of our own moon. This star gazing event changed the girls and gave them a new perspective on the world.

In this economy, many of our girls (and families) live in poverty, visit the local food bank on a regular basis and have no extra curricular activities to distract them from the stark reality of life. To these girls, looking up into the night sky and seeing the beautiful stars and planets gives them a shimmer of hope and inspires the next generation of Astronauts, Physicists, and Astronomers. Decades ago, we could see the bold band of the Milky Way, every night. Today, city lights make it nearly impossible to see anything but the brightest bodies in the sky. I understand that the Riverside County Board of Supervisors are reviewing an ordinance regulating light pollution, at the October 25th meeting.

I support any ordinance that would start controlling offensive or invasive lights. The girls of Troop 1124 are counting on you!

Sincerely,

Irene Trovato
Leader, Girl Scout Troop 1124
951-264-1264



County of Riverside
Board of Supervisors Meeting
October 25, 2011

PLEASE APPROVE the Light Trespass Ordinance

William Larsen

2112 Rancho Corona Drive, Corona, CA 92882

Some Things to Remember:

There's something **Good** in this Ordinance for everybody:

- * Reinstating a Dark Sky
- * Energy Savings
- * Addresses Health Concerns (Pollution, Cancer, Sleep)
- * In Concert with other County of Riverside Ordinances
(as well as that of all of our surrounding Counties)
- * Minimize glare and obtrusive light by limiting outdoor
lighting that is misdirected, excessive, or unnecessary
- * To Keep Lights from being used in an Offensive Manner

William
Larsen
10/25/11 3.2

Translating a Dark Sky:

Until the 19th Century, people only used the full moon, torches and simple lanterns to see at night. With the advent of gas and later electricity, night lighting has become more permanent and widespread, with the result that light pollution has slowly emerged. Light pollution can be defined as any modification of the natural light environment, especially that which causes some sort of nuisance. The most well-known forms of light pollution include sky glow, light trespass and glare.

Inefficient and excessive night lighting causes significant loss of energy globally. In North America, the energy wasted in illuminating the sky costs about a billion dollars. Here in Quebec, more light is produced per inhabitant than anywhere else in the world. It has thus been estimated that over 20 million dollars could be saved annually in this province by improving lighting management and cutting energy consumption by over 700 GWh/year.

Because of the multiple problems deriving from light pollution, astronomers, engineers, architects, designers and luminaires manufacturers have all come together to redefine requirements and draft solutions for outdoor illumination. Several municipalities near Mt. Megantic have adopted innovative regulations to curtail the growing concerns over light pollution.

The practical guide follows that trend and is based on recent work in the Mt. Megantic region. Although it is primarily intended for lighting professionals and suppliers, the general public will also find advice for simple actions that will reduce light pollution and energy consumption. The first part of the guide explains basic ideas regarding efficient management of exterior lighting and offers useful tips on how to determine the level of illuminance required and how to select an appropriate luminaire.

The second part provides examples of different lighting applications so that the reader can design a lighting system that not only offers excellent visibility but also limits over-illumination. The document ends with a glossary of technical terms used.

LIGHT POLLUTION AND STAR GAZING

Stars are less visible when the sky is illuminated and only 2% of stars can be seen today from most cities and suburbs. One must now travel several hundreds of kilometers from an urban center to witness a clear, starry sky. This is one of the major consequences of light pollution, which not only affects the work of astronomers, but also deprives city dwellers of the possibility of enjoying the beautiful night sky.

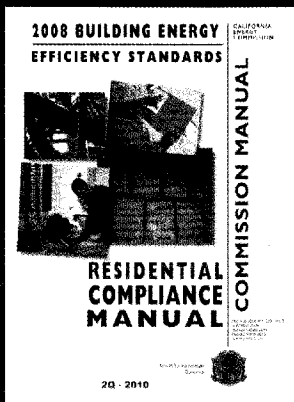
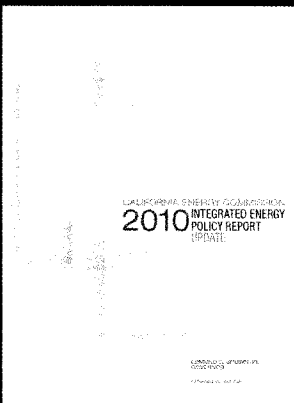
A dark sky is essential to astronomers for the observation of celestial objects, particularly those of faint luminosity. Light pollution in the Eastern Townships seriously frustrates studies at the Mt. Megantic Observatory, the most important astronomical research center in Canada. The polluters aim mainly educational and tourist activities at the ASTROhub in the Mt. Megantic provincial park.

These two photos were taken in a Toronto suburb during a widespread electrical blackout (on the left) and after electricity was restored (on the right). The Milky Way is clearly visible in the dark sky but completely obscured with light pollution. Source: Bob Carter

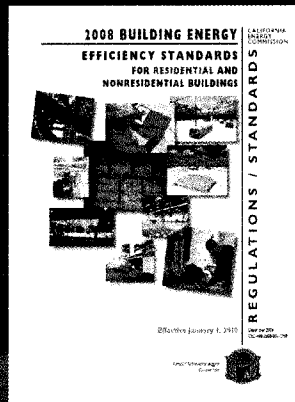
INTRODUCTION

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Energy Savings:



California Energy Commission
Standards are Updated Every 2 Years



Addresses Health Issues:

* Exposure to Light at Night (LAN) in the "Sleeping Habitat" is Significantly Associated with Breast Cancer Risk

"Can the Modern Urbanized Sleeping Habitat Pose a Breast Cancer Risk?"

Chronobiology International, Feb. 2015, Vol. 28, No. 3, Pages 70-80

* Light at Night and Depression

"You're Not a Depression: Sleeping in Dark rooms may help"

By Ronald Reiter, My Health News Daily - USA, 17 November 2010

* Light at Night and Obesity

"US school study: Light at night can cause obesity"

By Judy Siegel-Gratch, The Jerusalem Post, 12 October 2010

* Light at Night and Insect Borne Disease

"Artificial lighting as a vector attractant and cause of disease diffusion"

Borghesi, A and SAC de Medeiros, 2010. Environmental Health Perspectives

* Sleep Disruption - "Bill Larson", August 15, 2010 County of Riverside Board Meeting

Consistency with other Riverside County Ordinances / Laws:

1. Riverside County Ordinances 655 and 348

1. ARTICLE IXc, R-VC ZONE, SECTION 9.83. DEVELOPMENT STANDARDS,

n. Site Lighting.

(1) Illumination from on-site fixtures may not spill over onto adjacent private property

2. SECTION 12.4. DEVELOPMENT STANDARDS, k. Lighting.

All lighting fixtures, including spot lights, electrical reflectors and other means of illumination for signs, structures, landscaping, parking, loading, unloading and similar areas, shall be focused, directed, and arranged to prevent glare or direct illumination on streets or adjoining property

3. SECTION 17.73.140 "D", 15. All lighting fixtures, including spot lights, electrical reflectors and other means of illumination for signs, structures, landscaping, parking, loading, unloading and similar areas, shall be focused, directed and arranged to prevent glare or direct illumination on residential uses.

3. SECTION 18.12. OFF-STREET VEHICLE PARKING. g. Development Standards For off-Street Parking Facilities, 7) Lighting, a) Parking area lighting is not required. However, if parking areas are lighted, such lighting facilities shall be located to prevent lights from shining directly onto adjoining properties or streets

Minimize Glare and Obtrusive Light:



Do any of us want lights like these blaring into our bedrooms and blinding the sky every night?

7

A few words about "Security Lighting":

I have no issue with *real* security lights ... ones that are properly shielded so as to thoughtfully illuminate only one's own property.

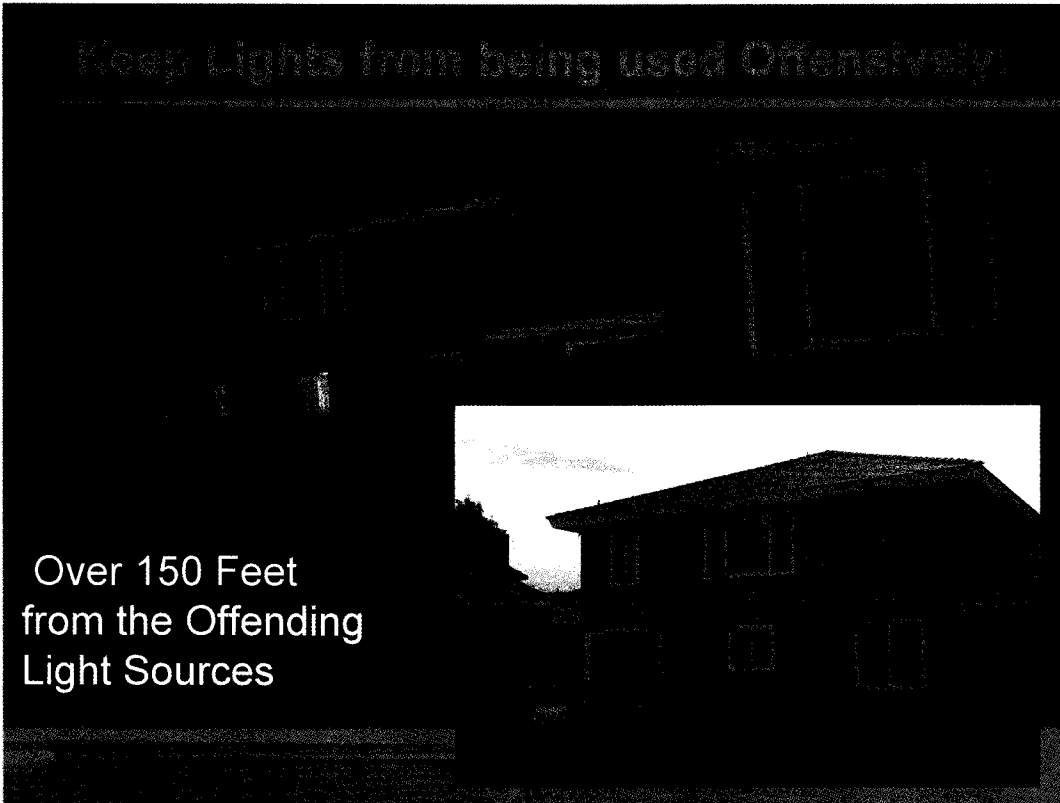
But lights that intensely light up:

- The inside of a neighbor's second story bedroom 150 feet away,
- The top of a 99 foot tall Palm Tree 125 feet away, and/or
- The top of a two-story Chimney 275 feet away ...

Are clearly NOT security lights !

They are either obnoxious, inconsiderate, or vicious tools used by one neighbor against another ...
... but they are currently legal in much of Riverside County !!

8



Over 150 Feet
from the Offending
Light Sources

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Supervisors vote to draft "light trespass" ordinance Translate this page
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Friday, October 15th, 2010
Issue 41, Volume 14

Supervisors vote to draft "light trespass" ordinance

RIVERSIDE - Riverside County supervisors voted today to move forward with drafting a "light trespass" ordinance that could mean penalties for residents with overly bright outdoor lights.

Supervisor John Tavaglione got the idea for such an ordinance earlier this year after a constituent complained that glaring light from a neighboring business was disrupting his sleep.

The ordinance, which would apply only to unincorporated areas of the county, will likely be introduced in the next 90 days. A public hearing is required before it can be approved by the board.

"Light trespass results in a waste of natural resources and, at certain levels, may jeopardize the health, safety, or welfare of Riverside County residents," Tavaglione wrote in the proposal for the ordinance.

He noted that the last time the board addressed the issue was in 1988, but that was mainly to regulate light fixtures emitting rays that seriously disrupted star-gazing and research at the Palomar Observatory in northern San Diego County.

"The proposed ordinance would establish a countywide standard for outdoor lighting that would generally prohibit light trespass," Tavaglione said.

Riverside County residents could face penalties for "light trespass" in the future.

RIVERSIDE - Riverside County residents with overly bright outdoor lights could face penalties in the future if plans for a new "light trespass" ordinance are approved Tuesday by the Board of Supervisors.

Supervisor John Tavaglione is proposing the ordinance, which was brought up earlier this year after a constituent complained about the glaring light from a neighboring business disrupting his sleep.

"Light trespass results in a waste of natural resources and, at certain levels, may jeopardize the health, safety or welfare of Riverside County residents," Tavaglione wrote in the proposal for the ordinance.

He noted that the last time the board addressed the issue was in 1988, but that was mainly to regulate light fixtures emitting rays that seriously disrupted star-gazing and research at the Palomar Observatory in northern San Diego County.

"The proposed ordinance would establish a countywide standard for outdoor lighting that would generally prohibit light trespass," Tavaglione said.

The ordinance would only apply to unincorporated areas of the county.

Recommended Be the first of your friends to recommend this.

8 comments

Willy
Comment #1 | Tuesday, Oct 19, 2010 at 11:32 am
You have to be kidding me. Doesn't our County officials have better things to worry about than this?

Jake
Comment #2 | Tuesday, Oct 19, 2010 at 7:20 pm
Actually, I'm all for this. Anyone who has ever had an intransigent neighbor blast your windows with lighting that rivals the sun will understand the need for such an ordinance.

Bill
Comment #3 | Tuesday, Nov 9, 2010 at 7:01 pm
As "the recusitant" that brought the issue forward to Supervisor Tavaglione, I agree with both Willy and Jake. Unfortunately Willy, when the light is shining into your second story bedroom brighter than the lights shining on the White House ... and you can read a book in bed without having to turn on a light ... and it is keeping you awake all night ... and you have tried everything reasonable and polite to get your neighbor to properly shield it ... you have to take action. I suggest you review my presentation to the Riverside Board of Supervisors on 2/9/2010.

Carrie
Comment #4 | Tuesday, Nov 30, 2010 at 2:57 pm
All counties need to adopt this. I also have a neighbor who has installed commercial grade floodlights on the roof of his second story house and decorative awning them at my master bedroom window, kitchen and family room. This is his revenge for a complaint I made to him about building a large structure over our property line. There is no city code to protect us from this.

GoodGod
Comment #5 | Tuesday, Jan 4, 2011 at 9:30 pm
OMG, I agree totally with the ordinance. I had a neighbor who is ignoring my complaints about her lights. They shine so brightly in our bedroom windows at night you could read a book by them. It is not only unhealthy, but we can't sleep.

ig
Comment #6 | Sunday, Feb 27, 2011 at 4:24 pm
It's good to see this making progress. I've done a lot of activism on light pollution awareness. A common question I get is "can I do anything about a neighbor's intrusive lights?" No. Not without an ordinance addressing the problem.

The elimination of light trespass should be a no-brainer and a design goal of any developer. Aim lights downward so that 1) everyone can see better, 2) so that all the energy is used where it's needed, 3) so it doesn't interfere with neighbors' rights to a glare-free yard or a dark bedroom, and 4) reduce light pollution. Unfortunately, developers try to increase attention to new homes by outfitting them with intrusive lights that can be seen a mile away.

I hope the ordinance is in a form that will allow it to be quickly adapted to the local.

EAN
Comment #7 | Monday, Aug 29, 2011 at 3:56 am
I have just such an inconsiderate neighbor. He installed an AMBER colored FLOOD in his back yard. It comes on at dawn and stays on all morning. When the motion detector is tripped, the light goes from light to full on shining up ALL of my property. I like to sit in my yard and look at the stars. NOT POSSIBLE! I called to him over the fence and asked him to adjust the light. I doubt that he will. I fear a law will be inevitable.

here is some info I obtained.

LIGHT TRESPASS (when a light, uncontrolled lighting installation occurs near residential areas, the tranquility of the nighttime environment is disturbed and the quality of life diminished. Light Trespass is the most common source of citizen complaints.

Two Types of Light Trespass:

- 1) Adjacent property receives "unwanted light" and
- 2) Excessive brightness occurs in the normal field of view (nuisance glare).

Security lights that are not controlled and activated by an alarm system or a panic button can't be left on. All other lighting must be controlled by a timer set to go off no later than 11 p.m. The light level at the property line must be under 0.5 foot candles and the light must be aimed to shine WITHIN the property lines.

Bill
Comment #8 | Tuesday, Oct 5, 2011 at 11:01 am
I am the guy (see comment 3) that brought the issue forward to the Board of Supervisors and I truly understand your situation and agree with Bill.

I have been in front of Supervisor Tavaglione's office ever since February 2010. Last October, the Board voted unanimously to direct County Counsel to draft an ordinance (or ordinance revision) addressing "light and noise" ... as well as a myriad of silent citizens. But more citizens need to show their concern on this issue.

I currently expect an Ordinance to go to the Board on October 25. Please review the Board Agenda every Monday to check to see if it is on the Agenda. I hope you will be at that Board Meeting to voice your support!

The New Light Trespass Ordinance Could
Change This ~~Photo~~ to This



PLEASE APPROVE
the Light Trespass Ordinance

THANK YOU!

William Larsen

2112 Rancho Corona Drive

Corona, CA 92882

951-734-1417

eMail: bill@octu.com

**Riverside County Board of Supervisors
Request to Speak**



Submit request to Clerk of Board (right of podium),
Speakers are entitled to three (3) minutes, subject
Board Rules listed on the reverse side of this form.

SPEAKER'S NAME: WILLIAM LARSEN

Address: 2112 RANCHO CORONA DRIVE
(only if follow-up mail response requested)

City: CORONA **Zip:** 92882

Phone #: 951-734-1417

Date: 10/25/2011 **Agenda #** 3.2

PLEASE STATE YOUR POSITION BELOW:

Position on "Regular" (non-appealed) Agenda Item:

Support **Oppose** **Neutral**

Note: If you are here for an agenda item that is filed
for "Appeal", please state separately your position on
the appeal below:

Support **Oppose** **Neutral**

I give my 3 minutes to: _____

**Riverside County Board of Supervisors
Request to Speak**



Submit request to Clerk of Board (right of podium),
Speakers are entitled to three (3) minutes, subject
Board Rules listed on the reverse side of this form.

SPEAKER'S NAME: John Garrett

Address: ~~3285~~
(only if follow-up mail response requested)

City: Wildomar CA **Zip:** 92595

Phone #: 951-609-3021

Date: 10/25/2011 **Agenda #** Ord 915 3.2

PLEASE STATE YOUR POSITION BELOW:

Position on "Regular" (non-appealed) Agenda Item:

Support **Oppose** **Neutral**

Note: If you are here for an agenda item that is filed
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