

# LIGHT ABATEMENT IN MISSISSIPPI MILLS

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Outline:

- 1) Definitions: Light Pollution and Light Pollution Abatement
- 2) Past: Outdoor Lighting Bylaw
- 3) Present: The Good and the Bad
- 4) Future: Education – Pamphlets & Web Info – Bylaw Update

# LIGHT POLLUTION (LP)

Definition: light that is unnecessary OR traveling upward

Consequences: wasted energy (\$\$\$), negative health impacts on all forms of life

- Life evolved without artificial light so it's no surprise humans are plagued with sleep disorders
- Studies also show that animals, birds, insects, and even plants are negatively affected

More is not better:

- Improper lighting can impair night vision and reduce safety
  - Studies also show that more light does not correlate with less crime
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# NIGHT SKY ILLUMINATION: THE BORTLE SCALE





# LIGHT POLLUTION ABATEMENT (LPA)

- Bylaw 03-62 (2003) "Outdoor Illumination" governs road, commercial, & residential lighting

## HOWEVER:

- *Lack of an update has led to improper LED lighting choices*
- *Lack of vigilance & education has led to many unshielded fixtures*



## Good Neighbour Lighting

Avoid  
Unnecessary  
Lighting of the  
Night Sky



What you Need to Do:  
Use Shielded Outdoor  
Lights and/or Install  
Motion Sensors on  
Outdoor Lights.



# ROAD LIGHTING



“Cobra” luminaire



Lights upward



Warmer yellow



LED luminaire



Full cut off (FCO)



Glare (too blue)





Wall packs  
(& lanterns)

Gooseneck &  
shielded fixtures

# COMMERCIAL & RESIDENTIAL LIGHTING



Mill Run subdivision – no shielding!

Properly shielded residential lights





# WHAT WE NEED TO DO

1. Improve the Outdoor Illumination bylaw
  - Reduce the glare of the LED road lights
  - Ensure developers use shielded fixtures
  - Restrict decorative lighting
2. Education
  - Revive the “Good Neighbour Lighting” brochure (perhaps with MVCA)
  - Promotion on town website, printed materials, and at local events (with RASC)
3. Resources: RASC, Darksky.org, Skyglowproject.com

