

Outdoor Lighting

Outdoor lighting ordinances help communities keep their rural nighttime character, preserve star-filled skies, and maintain public safety while growth occurs. To be clear, outdoor lighting ordinances do not prohibit outdoor lighting - they simply limit the amount of light pollution. When nighttime lighting is shining where it's not intended - onto neighbors' properties, into the eyes of drivers and pedestrians, or up into the sky - it is considered light pollution. Reducing light pollution in our communities benefits human health, safety, and quality of life while also saving money in energy costs. Proper outdoor lighting protects starry views, which increases the tourism draw of our communities, benefits wildlife, and preserves a connection to the stars for children and adults.

Remember, it's not about "no lighting," it's about thoughtful lighting.

EXAMPLE ORDINANCES

BLANCO

- Addresses the city's extraterritorial jurisdiction (ETJ).

WIMBERLEY

LIBERTY HILL

- Uses the Texas Model Outdoor Lighting Ordinance (from Texas IDA).

FREDERICKSBURG

The Hill Country Alliance Night Sky Program helps Hill Country communities minimize the impacts of light pollution through education and outreach, the establishment of outdoor lighting policies, and the celebration of designated Dark Sky Places in our region.

- Explore our resources at hillcountryalliance.org/our-work/night-skies