

OUR MISSION
To protect the night
from light pollution.



Photo by Bettymaya Footit

ABOUT US

The International Dark-Sky Association fosters and empowers a global volunteer network that drives the worldwide dark sky movement by promoting eco-friendly outdoor lighting and educating policymakers and the public about the importance of nighttime conservation.

The IDA is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization based in Tucson, Arizona USA.



JOIN THE DARK SKY MOVEMENT

SINCE 1988,
the International Dark-Sky Association
has led the global movement to protect
the night from light pollution. Our impact
now reaches more than 51 countries with
members, advocates, and dark sky places
on every inhabited continent.



Give Today

darksky.org/ways-to-give
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contact@darksky.org

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Front-panel photo by Shreemiyasan-Manickavannan

Protect the Night



INTERNATIONAL DARK-SKY ASSOCIATION

LIGHT POLLUTION HURTS OUR PLANET

The inappropriate or excessive use of artificial light — known as light pollution — can have serious environmental consequences for humans, wildlife, and our climate.



LIGHT POLLUTION DEVASTATES WILDLIFE.

Plants and animals depend on Earth's daily light and dark cycle to govern life-sustaining behaviors. Research shows that artificial light at night has adverse and even deadly effects on many species.



LIGHT POLLUTION CAN MAKE YOU LESS SAFE.

There is no clear scientific evidence that increased outdoor lighting deters crime. Poor outdoor lighting can decrease personal safety by making victims and property more visible to criminals.



LIGHT POLLUTION WASTES ENERGY AND MONEY.

As much as 50% of outdoor lighting is wasted, which increases greenhouse gas emissions, contributes to climate change, and renders us all more energy-dependent.



LIGHT POLLUTION MAY HARM YOUR HEALTH.

Studies suggest that artificial light at night negatively affects human health by increasing our risks for obesity, sleep disorders, depression, diabetes, breast cancer, and more.



LIGHT POLLUTION ROBS US OF OUR HERITAGE.

Our ancestors experienced a night sky that inspired science, religion, philosophy, art, and literature. Now, millions of children across the globe will never know the wonder of the Milky Way.

LIGHT POLLUTION IS REVERSIBLE!

Unlike other forms of pollution, light pollution is a problem with solutions that are easy to implement. These solutions deliver immediate and lasting results.

SUCCESS STORY In 2018, the City of Tucson, Arizona, USA (population 500,000) upgraded its streetlights; by doing so, it saved \$2.2 million per year in energy costs and reduced light pollution by 7%.

Photo by Betty Mayja Foot

OUR PROGRESS



1,000+

More than 1,000 dark sky-certified lighting fixtures are available in the marketplace.

170+

IDA has designated more than 170 International Dark Sky Places, protecting over 110,000 sq km of dark places around the globe.

500+

IDA supports more than 500 volunteer advocates in 49 countries.

LIGHT TO PROTECT THE NIGHT

Follow IDA's Five Principles for Community Outdoor Lighting to reduce light pollution where you live.

MAKE SURE YOUR LIGHTING IS:

- 1 Useful**
Install lighting only when and where it's needed.
- 2 Targeted**
Shield your lights so they shine down on the ground, which reduces harmful glare and decreases skyglow.
- 3 Low Light Levels**
Light should be no brighter than necessary.
- 4 Controlled**
Use controls such as timers, dimmers, and motion sensors on outdoor lights.
- 5 The Appropriate Color**
Use warm color lights where possible. Limit the use of harmful blue wavelength lighting.

BEFORE

Photos by Richard Brien

AFTER

