

CHAPTER 157: OUTDOOR LIGHTING

Section

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The following terms or phrases, when capitalized herein shall have the following meaning:

EVENT LIGHTING. Any lighting used for outdoor activities with large public gatherings.

FIXTURE. The assembly that houses the lamp or lamps and can include all or some of the following parts: a housing, a mounting bracket or pole socket, a lamp holder, a ballast, a reflector or mirror, and/or a refractor or lens.

FLOOD OR SPOTLIGHT. Any light fixture or lamp that incorporates a reflector or a refractor to concentrate the light output into a directed beam in a particular direction.

FOOT-CANDLE. A measurable industry standard of illumination equivalent to one lumen per square foot.

GLARE. Light emitting from a light source with intensity great enough to reduce a viewer's ability to see, and in extreme cases causing momentary blindness.

HEIGHT OF LIGHT SOURCE. The height of a light source shall be the vertical distance from the ground directly below the centerline of the light source to the lowest direct-light-emitting part of the light source.

INDIRECT LIGHT. Direct light that has been reflected or has scattered off of other surfaces.

LAMP. The component of a light source that produces the actual light.

LIGHT TRESPASS. The shining of light produced by a light source beyond the boundaries of the property on which it is located.

OUTDOOR LIGHTING. The nighttime illumination of an outside area or object by any man-made device located outdoors that produces light by any means.

UPLIGHTING. Any fixture aimed in such a way as to project the light upward above the horizontal plane passing through the lamp.

§ 157.01 PURPOSE; APPLICABILITY; AND DEFINITIONS

(A) Purpose

(1) Good outdoor lighting at night benefits everyone. It increases safety, enhances the Village's nighttime character, and helps provide security. Excessive glare can be annoying and may cause safety problems. Light trespass reduces everyone's privacy, and higher energy use results in increased costs for everyone.

(2) There is a need for a lighting ordinance that recognizes the benefits of outdoor lighting and provides clear guidelines for its installation so as to help maintain and compliment the Village's character. Appropriately regulated, and properly installed, outdoor lighting will contribute to the safety and welfare of the residents of the village.

(3) This ordinance is intended to reduce the problems created by improperly designed and installed outdoor lighting. It is intended to eliminate problems of glare, minimize light trespass, and help reduce the energy and financial costs of outdoor lighting by establishing regulations that limit the direction of lighting and the area that certain kinds of outdoor-lighting fixtures can illuminate.

(4) The secondary purpose of this ordinance is to preserve the rural nature of the countryside, enhance nighttime enjoyment of property, and enhance the enjoyment of the night sky.

(5) All lighting standards in this section are applicable to all lighting and no lighting shall be installed that violates the standards of this chapter.

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§157.02 REGULATIONS; PROHIBITIONS

(A) All residential lighting shall be confined to illuminating entry ways to principal and accessory structures, walkways and driveway entrances. The total exterior wattage of all exterior fixtures may not exceed three hundred (300) watts per parcel.

(B) All residential and commercial exterior lighting shall be designed such that the lamp is not directly visible from adjacent and neighboring properties or public rights-of-way.

(C) For all type of uses, light level shall be no greater than one-half (0.5) of a foot-candle at a height of five feet above grade at the property line.

(D) In addition to being in compliance with the below sections, no exterior lighting may be used in any manner that could interfere with the safe movement of motor vehicles on publicly traveled ways. Specifically, any light not designed for roadway illumination that produces direct or reflected glare that could be disturbing to the operator of a motor vehicle is prohibited.

(E) Mercury vapor sources are prohibited from use. The installation, sale, offering for sale, lease or purchase of any mercury vapor fixture or lamp for use as outdoor lighting is prohibited.

(F) Neon, blinking, flashing, moving, revolving, scintillating, flickering, changing intensity and changing color lights shall be prohibited except for temporary holiday displays, lighting for: public safety, motor vehicle traffic control, air traffic control, and waterway navigation and warning purposes.

§157.03 UPLIGHTING; HIGHLIGHTING; FLOODLIGHTING; MOTION LIGHTING, RECREATION FACILITIES

(A) Uplighting is only permitted when used as follows:

(1) To light a primary entrance, when the lighting fixture is wall-mounted under an architectural element (e.g. roofs over walkways/entries or overhanging, non-translucent eaves) and that this element contains the illumination, and

(2) To light local, state, or national flags, when no more than two light fixtures per flag are used.

(B) Highlighting, or illumination, of building facades by use of uplighting is prohibited. Driveways and landscaping lighting shall be limited to 35 incandescent watts per fixture per 150 square feet of driveway or landscape area.

(C) Floodlighting is only permitted when it is down-directed and fully-shielded such that the lamp is not visible from adjacent and/or neighboring properties. Ground-mounted floodlighting of a structure is prohibited.

(D) For safety and security lighting the use of motion sensors, photocells, or photocell/timers to control duration of nighttime illumination is required. In all cases light intensity on the property shall be limited to between one (1) and two (2) foot-candles measured at a height of 3 feet above grade.

(1) Motion sensors are the preferred method for controlling nighttime illumination since they turn on lights only when activated by motion and will remain on during the activity and for a set period of time (typically up to 30 minutes) following the last detection of motion. These are only permitted where the sensor is triggered by activity within the owner's property line.

(2) Photo cells illuminate a property for the entire night (i.e. they are activated by sunlight, turning lights on at dusk and off at dawn). They are only permitted under the following conditions:

(a) At primary points of entrance (e.g. front entries) or in critical common areas for commercial and multi-family properties.

(b) Where the light sources are fully-shielded by opaque material (i.e. the fixture illuminates the area but is not itself visibly bright

(c) Where the light source is fluorescent (or compact fluorescent) to eliminate excess electricity consumption. For non-residential properties, full cutoff HID (High Intensity Discharge) light sources (high pressure sodium and metal halide) may be used.

(3) Timer/Photocell combinations activate

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the light source at dusk and turn it off at a selected time several hours later, well before dawn. This is the preferred method when used for nighttime control at primary points of entrance (e.g. front entries) and may be used with fully shielded lighting fixtures with non-transparent diffusion material.)

(D) In recreation facilities, all lighting must conform to the above standards, except for those used for event lighting. Event lighting shall be fully shielded or provided with sharp cut-off capability, so as to minimize uplighting, spill-light, and glare. Event lighting shall be turned off no more than 60 minutes after the conclusion of a performance.

§157.04 FIXTURE HEIGHT OF LIGHT SOURCE

(A) Any fixture with a lamp or lamps rated at a total of more than 1800 lumens, and all flood or spot fixtures with a lamp or lamps rated at a total of more than 900 lumens, shall be mounted at a height equal to or less than the value $5 + (D/2)$, where D is the distance in feet to the nearest property boundary. The maximum height of the fixture may not exceed 20 feet.

(B) Non-residential, public service, and/or mixed residential and commercial fixture height of light source and types shall be as follows.

(1) Fixture height of light source shall be ten (10) feet or less in height, or the fixture must be fully shielded (cutoff), non-adjustable, and down directed (or building mounted and directed back at a facade).

(2) Parking lot lights shall be no greater than twelve (12) feet high. Light intensity on the lot shall not exceed one (1) foot-candle measured at a height of three (3) feet.

(3) Pedestrian area lighting shall be no more than twelve (12) feet in height. Light intensity shall be between one-half (0.5) and one (1) foot-candle measured at ground level. Low-level fixtures that are fully shielded and down directed are preferred in most areas. Pole mounted options above 6' must be fully shielded, non-adjustable, and down directed.

(C) Event lighting shall be exempt from height limitations.

§157.05 EXEMPTIONS; TEMPORARY LIGHTING

(A) Except as noted below, the following types of lighting shall be exempt from the provisions, requirements and review standards of this section

(1) Health, safety, and welfare. If a lighting plan or fixtures are proposed in which the deviations from this code provide demonstrable community and/or health, safety, and welfare benefits, an exemption may be considered.

(2) Holiday/Winter lighting for residential and commercial properties. The lighting associated with any national, state, local, or religious holiday or celebration is recommended to be lit for no more than one month prior and one month following the holiday. The light intensity of all holiday lighting shall not exceed one-half (0.5) of a foot-candle at the property line.

(3) Low voltage, 12 volt lighting or less for both residential and commercial properties.

(B) All temporary emergency lighting needed by emergency services, as well as all vehicular light sources, shall be exempt from the requirements of this article.

(C) Lighting for Temporary Commercial Use/Special Events may be requested through the Village Administrator, in conjunction with the special events permit.

§157.06 EFFECTIVE DATE; VIOLATIONS

(A) All existing outdoor lighting fixtures shall be considered legal nonconforming fixtures, provided that the existing fixtures may not be expanded or increased in a manner which would result in greater non-conformity.

§157.99 VIOLATIONS; PENALTIES

See § 10.99 (H)(8)

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