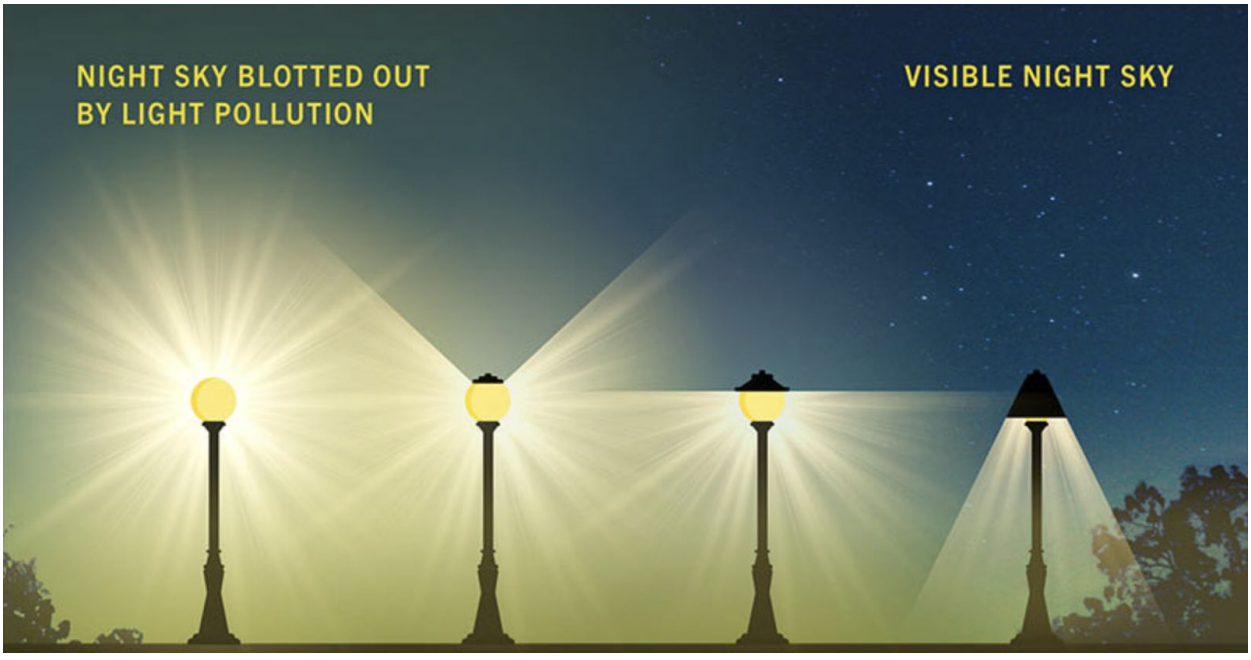
Lake Placid Dark Sky Initiative

International Dark Sky Association Lighting Principles

USEFUL		**ALL LIGHT SHOULD HAVE A CLEAR PURPOSE** Before installing or replacing a light, determine if light is needed. Consider how the use of light will impact the area, including wildlife and the environment. Consider using reflective paints or self-luminous markers for signs, curbs, and steps to reduce the need for permanently installed outdoor lighting.
TARGETED		**LIGHT SHOULD BE DIRECTED ONLY TO WHERE NEEDED** Use shielding and careful aiming to target the direction of the light beam so that it points downward and does not spill beyond where it is needed.
LOW LIGHT LEVELS		**LIGHT SHOULD BE NO BRIGHTER THAN NECESSARY** Use the lowest light level required. Be mindful of surface conditions as some surfaces may reflect more light into the night sky than intended.
CONTROLLED		**LIGHT SHOULD BE USED ONLY WHEN IT IS USEFUL** Use controls such as timers or motion detectors to ensure that light is available when it is needed, dimmed when possible, and turned off when not needed.
COLOR		**USE WARMER COLOR LIGHTS WHERE POSSIBLE** Limit the amount of shorter wavelength (blue-violet) light to the least amount needed.

Use Well-Shielded Lighting

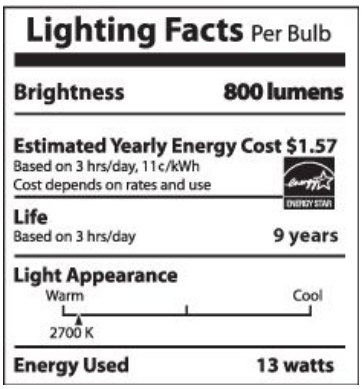
Target the direction of the light beam so that it points downward and does not spill where not needed



Use Low Light Levels

Lumens equal brightness. Watts do not; they measure energy use, not light output. With new, energy-efficient LED technology, we can no longer rely upon wattage to indicate how bright a bulb is.

Bulbs should be no brighter than necessary. Be mindful of surface conditions as some surfaces such as snow and ice reflect more light into the night sky than intended.



Brightness	Incandescent	CFL	LED
450 lumens	40W	9-13W	4-8W
800 lumens	60W	13-16W	8-13W
1100 lumens	75W	17-23W	11-15W
1600 lumens	100W	23-28W	16-20W

Choose Warmer Lights

Light appearance (also known as "color temperature"), ranges from warm/yellow light to cool/blue light. (Warmer light in the 2700K range is what you would expect from a standard 60W incandescent.) The K stands for "Kelvin" - a measure of color appearance.

Warmer light creates less light pollution. The Village of Lake Placid has been replacing bulbs in the Village's streetlights with 2700K bulbs. It is recommended that all outdoor lighting be 2700K or less.