

To all lovers of the dark night sky in Castle Valley

Those of us who live here are keenly aware of the unique environment that surrounds us. A major component of that environment is the darkness at night that affords us a sky scape that is becoming increasingly rare elsewhere. In an effort to preserve this asset, here are some helpful suggestions and inexpensive solutions to inadvertent lighting violations.

Many people are not even aware that their exterior lighting is bothersome to their neighbors or others. The first step is to do a self-analysis of your lighting ecology. Turn on your outside lighting after dusk and observe it outside, both from afar and in close proximity. The bright filament that you will notice can be seen from a great distance away. This, however, can easily be remedied by directing and shielding your light source so that it shines only on the immediate vicinity. The second consideration is to communicate with your neighbors to see if your outside lights have been a nuisance to them. Allow yourself to be receptive and responsive to information regarding their experience of your lighting.

There is a lighting ordinance in Castle Valley that you can find on this website. But everyone would like to resolve this issue without singling out or offending anyone by having to send out notices of non-compliance. So a little self-awareness and consideration will go a long way.

For more information:

In its effort to educate people about light pollution, the International Dark Sky Association provides, at cost, slides and information sheets to its members and others. Contact online at www.darksky.org or write to:

International Dark-Sky Association, Inc.

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