

BORREGO SPRINGS DARK SKY COALITION

LIGHTING STANDARDS FOR THE BORREGO VALLEY

Borrego Springs is certified as a Dark Sky Community by the International Dark Sky Association. The San Diego General Plan update of 2009 recognizes this unique and important element of Borrego's community character. The **Borrego Springs Dark Sky Coalition** encourages lighting practices and systems which minimize light pollution, glare and light trespass. The aim of the standards listed here is to curtail the degradation of the night time visual environment while maintaining safety and security.

GENERAL STANDARDS

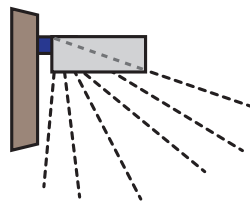
Outdoor lighting projection above the horizontal plane is discouraged.

All light fixtures should be located, aimed or shielded so as to minimize stray light trespassing across property boundaries.

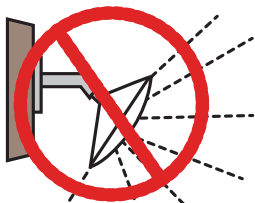
Existing and new land uses, developments, buildings, structures, or building additions should meet these standards.



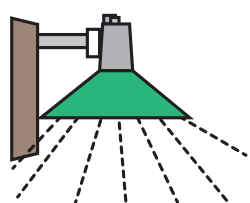
Yard Light



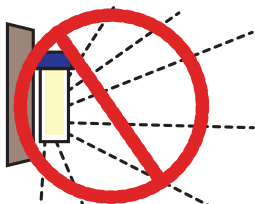
Typical "Shoebox"
(forward throw)



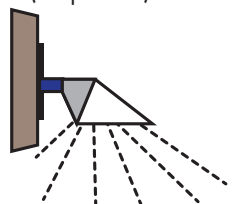
Area Flood Light



Opaque Reflector
(lamp inside)



Wallpack



Area Flood Light with Hood

TYPES OF LIGHTING, HOURS OF USE

Residential, Gathering Areas and Signage – All general outdoor lighting used for residential, outdoor sales or eating areas, assembly or repair areas, advertising and other signs, recreational facilities and other similar applications where color rendition is important to preserve the effectiveness of the activity.

This lighting should continue only until 9:00 p.m. or for as long as the area is in active use.

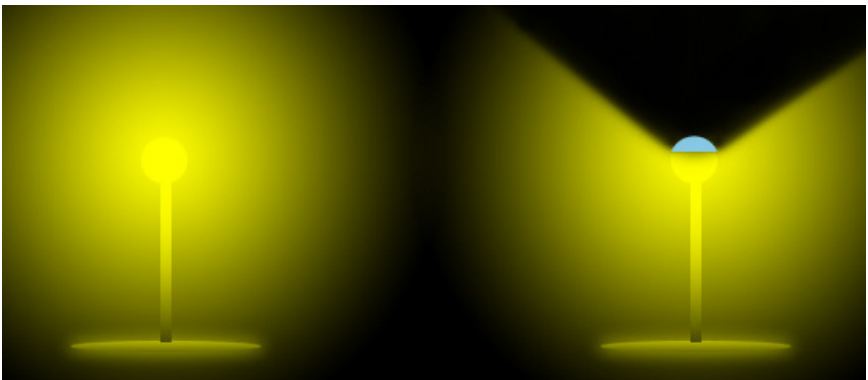
Outdoor internally illuminated advertising signs should be constructed with an opaque background and translucent letters and symbols. (Opaque means that the material must not transmit light from an internal illumination source.)

Decorative Lighting – Any outdoor lighting used for decorative effects including architectural illumination, flag and monument lighting, and illumination of trees, bushes, etc.

This type of lighting should be extinguished at 9:00 p.m. or when the business closes, whichever is later, except that low-wattage holiday decorations are acceptable all night.

Safety and Security Illumination – All outdoor lighting used for illumination for walkways, roadways, equipment yards, parking lots and outdoor security where general illumination for safety or security is the primary concern.

Lighting for these purposes is acceptable when needed.



UNSHIELDED

SEMI SHIELDED

MAXIMUM OUTDOOR LIGHTING RECOMMENDATIONS

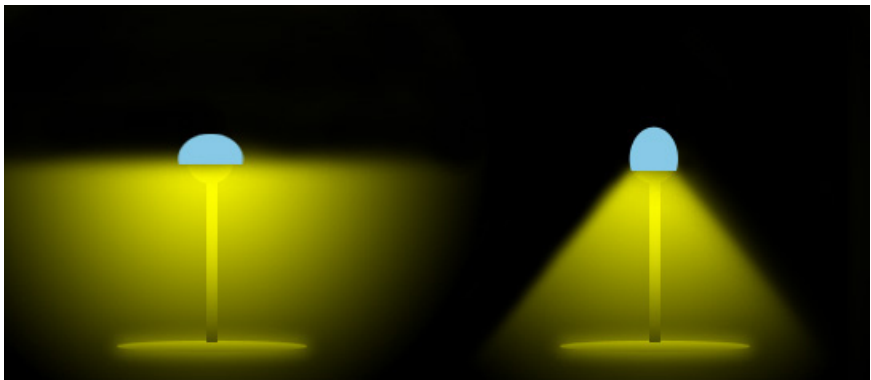
All types below 4,050 lumens	Acceptable if fully shielded
Low-pressure Sodium (yellow) above 4,050 lumens	Acceptable if fully shielded
Others above 4,050 lumens	Not acceptable

EXAMPLES OF LAMP TYPES OF 4050 LUMENS*

(Approximate)

- 200 Watt Standard Incandescent
- 150 Watt Tungsten-Halogen (quartz)
- 50 Watt Cool White Fluorescent
- 50 Watt High pressure Sodium (white)
- 30 Watt Low pressure Sodium (yellow)

**The acceptability of a light is decided by its lumen output, not wattage; check manufacturer's specifications.*



SHIELDED

FULLY SHIELDED

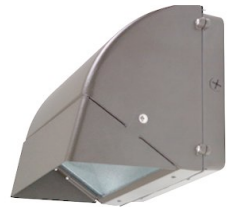
OTHER LIGHTING

Search lights, laser source lights, or any similar high-intensity light should not be used, except in emergencies by police and fire personnel or at their direction.

Outdoor recreational facilities do not need to be limited in lumens. Tennis, volleyball, racquetball and handball courts and swimming pools should utilize fully-shielded luminaires. However partially-shielded luminaires are acceptable for baseball, softball, and football. Lighting should end by 9:00 p.m. except to conclude a scheduled event.

RECOMMENDED MATERIALS AND METHODS

- Low pressure sodium lamps are the preferred illumination source throughout the valley. Mercury vapor lamps are not acceptable.
- Systems that turn off outdoor lighting during night hours are encouraged. Those systems which require all night illumination are discouraged.
- Motion sensor controls on security lighting to ensure lights turn off when not needed.
- Fully Shielded Fixtures – outdoor light fixture shielded in such a manner that all light emitted by the fixture is projected below the horizontal.



*For more detailed recommendations, please contact the Borrego Springs Dark Sky Coalition.
P.O. Box 310 Borrego Springs, CA, 92004
Phone 760-767-3052 (leave message)
www.BorregoDarkSkies.org
email: BorregoDarkSkies@gmail.com*