

What to do about the environmental problems caused by light pollution



Overview

Some steps are evident and make obvious economic sense: use of only the lighting necessary for the intended purpose, proper shielding of lighting fixtures so light is directed to where it is needed, and the use of timers to turn lighting off when it is not needed. Urban environments have become significantly brighter and more illuminated, and cities now consider media architecture and non-static, self-luminous LED displays an essential element of their strategy to attract residents, visitors, and tourists in the hours after dark. In a descriptive sense, light pollution occurs when artificial light is used in a poor or excessive way, especially at night, causing negative effects in the environment. MORE: Software helps UC researchers find invisible planets But Lynam says their ability to keep doing that kind of work is at risk because of something called light pollution. Changes like these have triggered climate change, soil erosion, poor air quality, mass extinction, and undrinkable water, among other effects. These negative impacts can affect human. Light pollution happens when too much or poorly aimed artificial light changes the natural patterns of light and dark in nature.

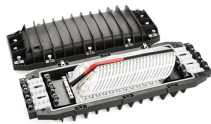
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Individuals, institutions, and governments should take actions to limit light pollution, including changing light bulbs and fixtures; adopting measures governing development around biodiversity and ...



Global light pollution is skyrocketing and the impacts are wide-ranging – with human health, the environment and nature all affected, according to studies. Immediate measures should be taken to ...



Light pollution threatens aquatic ecosystems by increasing the risk of harmful algae blooms. It also impacts our quality of life by eradicating our access to the wonder of beautiful night ...



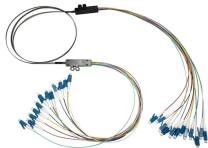
Opponents to light pollution mitigation efforts cite crime and safety concerns as a main reason for contention. But environmental scientist Travis ...



Often, one bad light source can cause several of these problems at once. Solutions often involve simple steps like adjusting light fixtures or using more suitable light ...



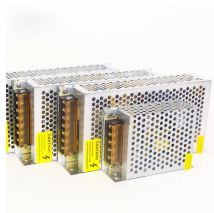
Light pollution at an observatory site from a nearby city depends on the size of the city and its distance. Use of shielding, timers, and the correct amount of lighting are helpful.



From cougars and bats to butterflies and sea turtles, wildlife are increasingly threatened by light pollution, but simple solutions can help



Light pollution from artificial light at night (ALAN) can disrupt insect circadian rhythms and seasonal phenology, disorienting them with respect to time of day or year.



Discover how to tackle light pollution through effective strategies, improving environments and restoring the natural wonder of the night.



Though a report on the proposed Gilroy billboard last year found that there would not be significant impacts to the environment, Lynam says it's not ...



More people are taking action to reduce light pollution and bring back the natural night sky. Many states have adopted legislation to control outdoor lighting, and manufacturers have ...



Humans impact the physical environment in many ways: pollution, burning fossil fuels, deforestation, and more. Changes like these have triggered climate ...



Reducing light pollution can lead to significant energy savings, lowering electricity bills for individuals, businesses, and municipalities. It can also enhance tourism by creating opportunities for ...



Unlike removing pollution from the air or water, light pollution can be eliminated immediately. Reducing light pollution can be as simple as turning off the lights, installing motion...



Discover how light pollution affects health and nature, its causes, and key strategies for mitigating it. Protect the sky!



Light pollution ranks amongst some of the more serious risks to the long-term sustainability of astronomical observations.



A major side effect of urbanization, light pollution is blamed for compromising health, disrupting ecosystems, and spoiling aesthetic environments. Studies show that ...



Explore the impact of excessive light on animals and humans and discover solutions to reduce light pollution. Read the report to learn more.



The authors propose practical recommendations (Table 8) to help reduce light pollution and the negative impact of obstructive light on human health and wellbeing, traffic safety, and the ...



In 2014, Los Angeles cut its annual carbon emissions by 43% and ...

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