

## Neighborhood Lighting Issue Sample Letter

Putting your thoughts in writing is a good way to avoid a miscommunication. Attached is a sample letter you may want to give to a neighbor to address a lighting issue.

Dear *(insert name)*,

I am your neighbor, and I am hoping we can talk about outdoor lighting. I have noticed that you have installed outdoor lights on your property, and I applaud your desire to help enhance safety and improve our neighborhood.

At this time your lights shine into *(identify impacted areas: our bedroom window, the backyard, into our house etc.)*, and interferes with our *(sleep, hobbies, view of the sky, etc)*. I am sure this is not intentional and I want to bring it to your attention. Of course, I am not asking you to remove the light/s, but perhaps they can be redirected onto the ground where they will do the most good.

Additionally, we could work together to shield the lights so that they are even more effective. Shielding a lamp usually requires a lower watt bulb, which could be a big money saver. Shielding reduces glare and produces fewer harsh shadows, which may hide trespassers. Appropriate lighting provides neighborhood security for everyone.

There are other ways to save money and still be safe. When lights have motion sensors, they provide an alert if someone is in your yard and they save money by keeping lights off when they aren't needed. Timers are another money saver because they can turn off lights when you will not be using the yard, for instance, when you retire for the night.

Thank you so much for your time and understanding. I would love to talk with you about the advantages to using dark sky friendly lighting and how it benefits your safety, your budget and the night sky. Also, I welcome any suggestions you might have regarding our lighting.

Sincerely,

Your Neighbor