

SECTION 8.6 OUTDOOR LIGHTING

8.6-1 Purposes

In order to preserve and maintain the rural character of West Tisbury, including the unique quality of the night sky, this Section is intended to:

- Minimize the problems created by improperly designed and installed outdoor lighting;
- Eliminate problems of glare and sky glow;
- Minimize light spillage from indoor sources;
- Minimize artificial light shining from one property to another;
- Decrease artificial light which illuminates the night sky;
- Conserve energy and natural resources and protect flora and fauna;
- Prevent unreasonable interference with astronomical observation; and
- Create standards for outdoor lighting to prevent such lighting from unreasonably interfering with the use and nighttime enjoyment of property in West Tisbury.

8.6-2 Regulations

- A. Any outdoor lighting fixture, whether temporary or permanent, shall be so directed, placed, and shielded to prevent glare or spillage of light into the sky or beyond the property line.
- B. All outdoor lighting shall be shielded and pointed downward.
- C. No lamp shall be mounted higher than the eave line of the structure.
- D. Multiple lamps on fixtures shall be permitted. Such lights shall not be combined or grouped in a way that violates the purposes in Section 8.6-1.

8.6-3 Exceptions

The following exceptions to the regulations in Section 8.6-2 are permitted.

- A. Lighting of single-family residences at the primary entry door is exempt from these regulations. However, the regulations apply to other lighting of the residence, lighting of detached accessory structures and facilities such as swimming pools, tennis courts, garages, parking areas, and riding stables, as well as to illumination of the landscape.
- B. For non-residential uses, these regulations shall be applied in a manner that enables a property owner to satisfy the minimum lighting standards required to obtain property insurance.
- C. The following types of outdoor lighting are also exempt from this Section 8.6:
 1. Public lighting, including lights used for temporary emergency lighting needed by the Police or Fire Departments or other emergency services.
 2. Vehicular and vessel lights.
 3. Light fixtures used for temporary recreational events, no longer than six weeks in duration in any calendar year.
 4. Traditional and antique lights, or reproductions thereof, provided that such lights do not violate the purposes in Section 8.6-1.