

## **Lincoln Planning Board Guidelines on Exterior Lighting**

Purpose: To preserve the rural character of the town and to protect the nighttime environment and our heritage of dark skies.

Authority: Zoning Bylaw Sections 13.5, 17.4(c) and 17.7.4(c).

### Guidelines

1. Exterior lighting on structures will be allowed only where required by the Massachusetts Building Code or where the Planning Board determines that lighting is needed to enhance safety of occupants or visitors.
2. Exterior lighting of structures or landscape for architectural or aesthetic effect will be discouraged.
3. Driveway lighting will not be allowed; however, lighting in parking areas and walkways adjacent to a home may be allowed. Such lighting should be mounted no more than 3 feet above finished grade.
4. To identify street numbers, reflective numbers on mailboxes are preferred. In unusual circumstances, the Planning Board may allow lighting of street numbers placed on the exterior of a residence or on a plaque or bollard placed near the street.
5. All lighting fixtures shall be dark sky compliant (see [www.darksky.org](http://www.darksky.org)) or provide full cutoff of direct rays above horizontal.
6. Bulbs shall not exceed 60 W incandescent equivalent.
7. The Planning Board may allow lighting that deviates from these standards if, in its judgment, unusual circumstances justify such deviation.

Adopted as interim policy 12/3/08