

THVI-Exterior Lighting Guidelines

Exterior Lighting

Green Valley observes 'dark sky' regulations to preserve our unique desert environment and keep our night skies dark in support of astronomy activity at area observatories. In addition, out of respect for neighbors, home lighting should avoid 'light trespass' (light shining from your property into someone else's home or yard).

The guidelines below outline the key points of these principles:

- Mailbox and yard pole lights are limited to bulbs of 40w or less (if incandescent), 6-7w or less (if light-emitting diode [LED]) or 8-12w or less (if compact fluorescent [CFL]) and should be of a color spectrum designed to avoid attracting insects (amber yellow; 'color temperature' of 2700K or lower) A good example of an LED bulb for such a use is the Sunlite LED [80149](#).
- Outdoor security lights are to be on motion sensors, shine downward, and only into your own property.
- Only mailbox and yard pole lights and low-voltage landscape lights may be on dusk -to dawn.
- Seasonal decorations are exempt from the lumen caps from Thanksgiving through January 15th.
- Lights on ramada/patio(s) need to be on the inside of the cross beams to minimize light pollution beyond your residence.

Additional reading:

Outdoor Lighting Codes in Pima County

<https://gis.pima.gov/data/layers/litecode/>

Southern Arizona Section of International Dark-Sky Association

<https://sa-ida.org/>

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