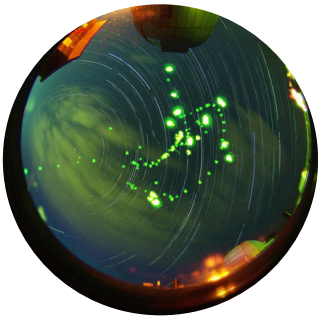
DarkSky Missouri



DarkSky Missouri was launched in October 2018 as an official chapter of the DarkSky International. Our chapter uses operating "zones" to make sure that our activities represent all regions of Missouri, not just one city.

The **mission** of DarkSky Missouri is to:

1. Raise awareness about light pollution issues in Missouri,
2. promote responsible outdoor lighting,
3. protect our natural environment and our beautiful night sky, and
4. educate the public how reducing light pollution can lower energy costs.

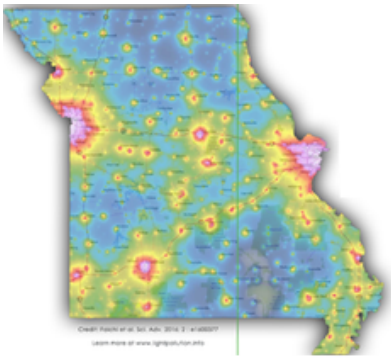
DarkSky Missouri: What we do

- **Advocate** for the responsible use of outdoor lighting,
- **Educate** the general public about the harm caused unshielded luminaires and the presence of blue-white light in our nighttime environment,
- Develop and support **student research** and **outreach projects**; develop and implement **course materials** in schools and colleges,
- **Train** and **establish collaborations** with members of organizations such as Missouri Master Naturalists, Sierra club, Audubon Society, and the Prairie Foundation.

How do we use our Funds?

- **Management** (website, mailchimp, Canva, Groups.io, Social media ads etc.)
- **Printing** brochures, handouts for administrators etc.
- **Registration** for outreach events
- Helping towns by making **inventories** of existing lighting
- **Scientific Research**: Providing schools with devices to measure light quality and lumen levels, and measure “sky brightness”

#lightpollution



Dark Skies: A Natural Resource

Research into the ecological consequences of outdoor lighting is revealing numerous connections between light pollution and species disruption.

Hundreds of migratory bird species use stellar and magnetic cues to guide them while flying at night Stray, outdoor light from aircraft towers, skyscrapers, and other sources can disorient migrating birds, causing them to lose their way, collide with buildings and structures, or circle tirelessly, expending crucial energy needed for flight and survival.

Artificial Light at Night appears to harm at least some nocturnal pollinator species. This could reduce crop yields and threaten food supplies in some instances. It may even contribute to significant population declines among pollinators that some have called the ‘insect apocalypse’.

Excess, cool blue-white light at dusk and night from sources such as LEDs interferes with the body’s circadian rhythms—natural, restorative biological processes needed for sound sleep and good health

Support DarkSky Missouri to protect Natural Darkness across Missouri