



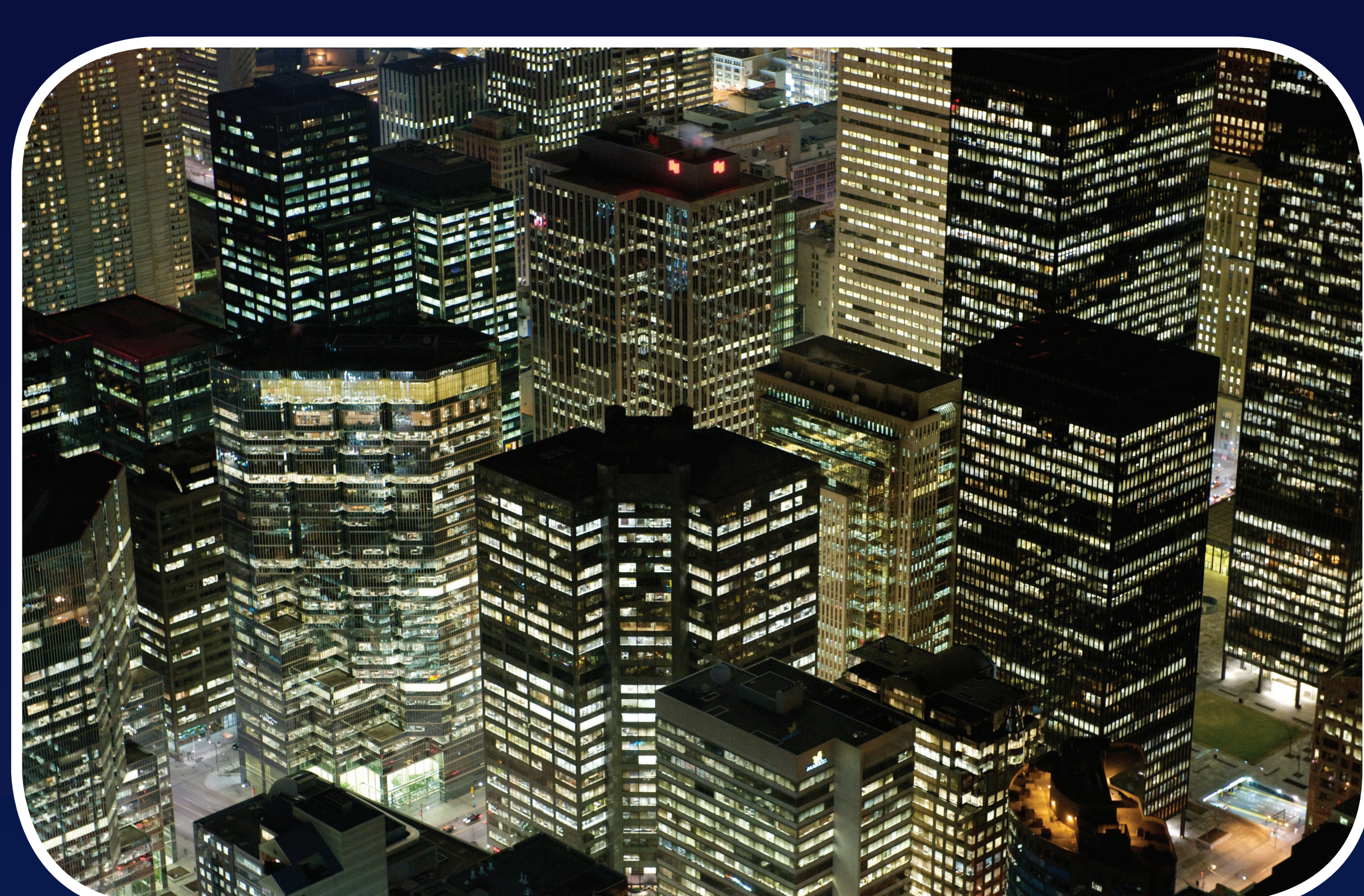
# DID YOU KNOW?

## LIGHT POLLUTION WASTES ENERGY & MONEY!

**In the U.S. alone**, there are about 162 million public and commercial outdoor light fixtures including

- 45 million streetlights,
- 52 million parking-lot lights,
- 62 million lights on commercial buildings.

Residential outdoor lighting isn't as bright, but there's a lot more of it — about 1 *billion* light fixtures.



## Lighting Consumes Lots of Energy

In an average year in the U.S., outdoor lighting uses some 120 terawatt-hours of energy, mostly to illuminate streets and parking lots. That's enough energy to meet New York City's total electricity needs for 2 years!

Excessive light at night causes light pollution and unnecessary greenhouse gas emissions, contributing to climate change.

## Let's Stop Wasting Light

With so much lighting, even modest efforts to control outdoor lighting saves money, reduces carbon emissions, and helps the environment.

We do need some light at night, but much of it is wasted by lights that are overly bright or left on when not needed. Unshielded fixtures waste the most energy. Their light shines upward, instead of down on the ground where it's needed.

At least 30% of outdoor light is wasted. That adds up to \$3.3 billion and the release of 21 million tons of CO<sub>2</sub> per year! To offset all that CO<sub>2</sub>, we'd have to plant 875 *million* trees annually.

Photos by Jim Richardson



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