



**International Dark-Sky Community Certification
Towns of Westcliffe and Silver Cliff Nomination Application**

Part III – Lighting Ordinances

Note: the ordinance documents have been edited down to the dark sky related language.

Town of Westcliffe—

Town of Westcliffe — Land Use Ordinances

**Chapter 1
ADMINISTRATION**

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10-1-3: Authority and Enforcement

- A. Authority. The Westcliffe Land Use Code is authorized by and enacted pursuant to Article 23, Chapter 31, of the Colorado Revised Statutes, as amended, and hereby is declared to be in accordance with all provisions of same. (Ord. 2-2007, eff. 9/6/2007)
- B. Enforcement. This ordinance hereby establishes and shall be enforced by an officer appointed by the Board of Trustees to be known as the "Zoning Enforcement Officer." (Ord. 2-2007, eff. 9/6/2007)
- C. Zoning Enforcement Officer. An official of the Town appointed by the Board of Trustees charged with authority for administration and enforcement of this Title.

10-1-6: Definitions

C. Definitions:

47. Fully Shielded: A lighting fixture constructed in such a manner that all light emitted by the fixture, either directly from the lamp or a diffusing element, or indirectly by reflection or refraction from any part of the luminaire, is projected below the horizontal. (Ord. 8-2014, eff. 12/13/2014)
48. Light Pollution: any and all nuisances caused by adverse effect of man-made light, including but not limited to glare, light trespass, sky glow, visual clutter, and wasted energy due to excessive or unnecessary lighting; or artificial light that unnecessarily diminishes the ability to view the night sky or is disruptive to flora and fauna. (Ord. 8-2014, eff. 12/13/2014)
49. Light Trespass: Light projected across property lines or into the public right-of-way when it is not required or permitted to do so. (Ord. 8-2014, eff. 12/13/2014)
50. Lumen: A unit used to measure the amount of light that is produced by a light source. The lumen quantifies the amount of light energy produced by a lamp at the lamp, not by the energy input, which is indicated by the wattage. One foot-candle means one lumen per square foot of area illuminated. (Ord. 8-2014, eff. 12/13/2014)
51. Unshielded Fixture: A fixture which, as designed or installed, emits all or part of the light above the lowest part of the light source. (Ord. 8-2014, eff. 12/13/2014)

10-1-12: Use by Special Review

6. Will not cause significant air, odor, water, light or noise pollution; (Ord. 2-2007, eff. 9/6/2007, Ord. 8-2014, eff. 12/13/2014)

Chapter 3

SUBDIVISION REGULATIONS

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3. A utilities plan shall be submitted showing at least the following: (Ord. 2-2007, eff. 9/6/2007)
 - d. Include street light plan. (Ord. 8-2014, eff. 12/13/2014)

C. Public improvements required.

6. Street lights. Street lighting and associated underground street lighting supply circuits shall be installed. The minimum requirement shall be .4 foot candles on the street. All street lights shall be fully shielded such that they produce no light higher than the horizontal plane of the light source. The street lighting plan specifying the number and approximate location of street lights must be included on the final plat. The style of fixture shall be the standard, Town-approved style for street and parking lot lights within the Town.. (Ord. 2-2007, eff. 9/6/2007, Ord. 2-2014, eff. 12/13/2014)

Chapter 4

SUPPLEMENTARY REGULATIONS

SECTIONS:

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10-4-3: Outdoor Lighting

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10-4-3: Outdoor Lighting

- A. All outdoor lighting shall be shielded so that direct light from the fixture does not trespass on neighboring property. Figure A shows examples of fixtures that are generally Unacceptable or Acceptable in meeting this section. A practical way to determine if a light fixture will conform to this provision is to not allow light to escape above a horizontal plane running through the lowest point of the luminous elements: the lamp or tube, any reflective surface or lens cover (clear or prismatic) must not be visible when viewed from above or the side. (Ord. 2-2007, eff. 9/6/2007, Ord. 2-2014, eff. 12/13/2014)
- B. Lighting shall be so placed as to prevent the light rays or illumination there from being cast beyond property lines. (Ord. 2-2007, eff. 9/6/2007)
- C. All metal halide and fluorescent fixtures shall be filtered with glass, acrylic or translucent enclosures. (Ord. 2-2007, eff. 9/6/2007)
- D. The installation of any mercury vapor fixture or lamp for use as outdoor lighting is prohibited. Only high pressure sodium (HIPS), low pressure sodium (LPS), LED or incandescent fixtures shall be permitted in commercial and multifamily residential parking areas. IN addition, the level of illumination shall not exceed the maximum lumens as stated in these ordinances. (Ord. 2-2007, eff. 9/6/2007, Ord. 2-2014, eff. 12/13/2014)
- E. All non-conforming outdoor light fixtures in existence prior to December 1, 2000, shall be deemed a legal nonconforming use and may be continued subject to the requirements of Section 10-1-7.B. (Ord. 2-2007, eff. 9/6/2007)
- F. Lights 100 watts and less per fixture, fluorescent lights 40 watts and less per fixture, gas fired fixtures, and lights used for holiday decorations are exempt from the requirements of this ordinance. (Ord. 2-2007, eff. 9/6/2007)
- G. The purpose of these lighting standards and the policy of the Town of Westcliffe is to minimize glare and light trespass beyond the property boundary of each lot by limiting outdoor lighting that is misdirected, excessive or unnecessary. The density of outdoor lighting, whether shielded or unshielded, shall not exceed in aggregate 50,000 lumens per acre in all zones. (Ord. 2-2014, eff. 12/13/2014)