

SHINING A SHIELDED LIGHT ON THE VILLAGE OUTDOOR LIGHTING ORDINANCE

As mentioned in the November 2007 newsletter the Village Board of Trustees approved an outdoor lighting ordinance which requires compliance by all residential and commercial property owners by January 2009.

By encouraging lighting practices that direct appropriate amounts of light where and when it is needed, we will use less energy, save dollars, be good neighbors and at the same time improve nighttime visibility, security and safety in the Village.

The ordinance includes provisions which involve using:

- fully or partially shielded light fixtures to prevent glare and skyglow (light spilling into the night sky)
- proper installation of shielded fixtures to prevent light trespass (glare and spill light that shines onto neighboring properties)
- a maximum allowed lighting limit and light curfews for residential and commercial properties

The entire ordinance is available on the Village website: www.shorewood-hills.org; click on Village Ordinances, Chapter 22. A printed brochure explaining the basic provisions of the ordinance and suggestions for compliance is available at the Village Hall. Or you can find “Dark Sky” information and a printable version of the brochure on the Village website at: www.shorewood-hills.org/dark_sky/dark_sky.htm.

MARK YOUR CALENDARS! On Tuesday, February 19, 2008 (Primary Election Day) information about compliant exterior light fixtures will be available at the Village Hall polling station. Please plan to stop by, vote and become illuminated about lighting!

We hope you will take a few minutes to read through the informational brochure or the ordinance and consider what changes might be needed to your property. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact one of the members of the Village Dark Sky Committee listed below.

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