

## Let's keep our sky dark



One of the advantages of being far from the city is that we can observe freely the spectacle offered by unpolluted dark skies. At Perkins-sur-le-lac, we are fortunate since we can still see many stars, meteorites and the Milky Way with the naked eye. Galaxies and nebulae are easily within reach of binoculars and telescopes. However, light pollution could rapidly take this privilege away. This pollution is mainly due to unnecessary artificial external lighting. However, contrary to popular belief, permanent external lightings (i.e. when not needed) has no advantage but many disadvantages:

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4. They attract unwanted insects such as mosquitoes.
5. They have a negative impact on the biological clock of wild animals.
6. They spoil visual dark adaptation and reduce the capacity of our eyes to see beyond the lighted areas. (When needed, lights that are exclusively directed toward the ground are preferable and red lights do not reduce as much dark adaptation).
7. They deprive the surrounding community of the beauty of the sky.
8. They increase electricity bills while enhancing the pollution caused by its generation.

To learn more about light pollution, efficient lighting and security, consult the following website: [www.darksky.org](http://www.darksky.org)

Let's save energy, money and respect this fragile gift of nature. Our visits to the cottage will be more secure and pleasant.

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