

§ 301-259. Exterior lighting standards.

A. General standards.

- (1) All exterior lighting shall be designed, located and lamped in order to prevent:
 - (a) Overlighting;
 - (b) Energy waste;
 - (c) Glare;
 - (d) Light trespass;
 - (e) Skyglow.
- (2) All nonessential exterior commercial and residential lighting is encouraged to be turned off after business hours and/or when not in use. Lights on a timer are encouraged. Sensor-activated lights are encouraged to replace existing lighting that is desired for security purposes.
- (3) Canopy lights, such as service station lighting, shall be fully recessed and full cutoff luminaires so as to ensure that no light source is visible from or causes glare on public rights-of-way or adjacent properties.
- (4) Area lights. All area lights shall be full-cut-off-type luminaires.
- (5) The Long Island Power Authority shall not install any luminaires after the effective date of this article that light the public right-of-way.

B. Type of luminaires.

- (1) All exterior lighting, with an exemption granted to municipal recreational fields, rated to be lamped at greater than 1,800 lumens (100 watts incandescent) shall use full cutoff luminaires as determined by photometry test or certified by the manufacturer and installed as designed with the light source directed downward. Municipal recreational fields, at a minimum, shall utilize partially shielded fixtures to direct light to the field of play, and to minimize upglow and light trespass.

[Amended 4-17-2018 by L.L. No. 9-2018]

- (2) All exterior light fixtures rated to emit 1,800 lumens (100 watts incandescent) and less, regardless of the number of lamps, shall use fully shielded fixtures (See Figure 1.) and shall be installed as designed. (See Figure 1.¹)²

C. Exempt exterior lighting. The following types of exterior lighting are exempt from the provisions of this section:

- (1) Holiday lighting lit between November 15 and January 15 of the following year.
- (2) Motion-sensor-activated luminaires, provided:

1. Figure 1 is included as an attachment to this chapter.

2. Editor's Note: Former Subsection B(3), regarding privately owned or leased light fixtures, which immediately followed, was repealed 4-17-2018 by L.L. No. 9-2018.

- (a) They are fully shielded and located in such a manner as to prevent glare and lighting onto properties of others or into a public right-of-way;
 - (b) The luminaire is set to only go on when activated and to go off within five minutes after activation has ceased;
 - (c) The luminaire shall not be triggered by activity off the property; and
 - (d) The luminaire, regardless of the number of lamps, does not exceed 1,800 lumens and is not rated to exceed 100 watts.
- (3) Vehicular lights and all temporary emergency lighting needed by the Fire and Police Departments, or other emergency services.
 - (4) Uplighting for flags, provided the flag is not used for advertising and the total maximum lumen output is 1,300 lumens.
 - (5) Lighting of radio, communications and navigation towers, provided the owner or occupant demonstrates that the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) regulations can only be met through the use of lighting that does not comply with this article, and that the provisions of this article are otherwise met.
 - (6) Runway lighting. Lighting on any landing strip or runway, provided the owner or occupant demonstrates that the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) regulations can only be met through the use of lighting that does not comply with this article.
 - (7) Neon lights. Neon lights as permitted pursuant to Article XLVIII, Signs, of this chapter.
 - (8) Residential landscape lighting as defined herein, provided the lamp or lamps are not visible across property lines and, in addition, are not triggered by a dusk-to-dawn timer.
- D. Placement and height of luminaires. **[Amended 4-17-2018 by L.L. No. 9-2018]**
- (1) Luminaires, exclusive of municipal streetlighting, and municipal recreational fields, shall be mounted no higher than 16 feet from the level ground to the lowest light-emitting part of the fixture.
 - (2) Luminaires on commercially used properties shall be located and shielded in a manner to prevent light projection beyond the property line. (See Figure 3.³)
 - (3) Luminaires used for municipal recreational fields and municipal outdoor recreational uses shall be exempt from the height restriction, and illuminance levels, provided all other

provisions of this article are met and the light is used only while the field is in use.

- (4) Sign lighting. Lighting shall be mounted on the top of the sign, directed downward, and positioned and shielded so that the light source is not visible. No individual lamp shall exceed 1,000 lumens. Mounting height of lights shall not exceed 16 feet.
 - (5) Mounting height of residential luminaires may not exceed 14 feet.
- E. Illuminance and type of lamp. **[Added 4-17-2018 by L.L. No. 9-2018]**
- (1) Illuminance levels for parking lots, sidewalks, and other walkways affected by side-mounted building lights and freestanding sidewalk lights (not streetlights) shall not exceed illuminance levels listed in the IESNA Recommended Practices, either PR33 or RP20, depending on the application. (See Tables 1, 2 and 3.⁴) The Town of Riverhead recognizes that not every such area will require lighting.
 - (2) Parking lot lighting shall not exceed an overall average illumination as listed on Table 1.⁵
 - (3) Streetlight luminaires shall be full cutoff luminaires and be lamped with high-pressure sodium or compact fluorescent light source. The Engineering Division shall make a determination for the type of light distribution, the height, and lumen value of the light source for each location, based on the manufacturer's supplied photometric information, in order to meet the streetlighting warrants. The criteria for evaluating the warrant of streetlights shall be in conformance with the American Association of State Highway Transportation Officials (AASHTO) standards and/or a safety hazard as determined by the Town Engineer. The Town Engineer shall reserve the option to alter the type of light, light intensity of public roads and public facilities in areas where public safety is an issue. Streetlight luminaires shall be brought into compliance with this section no later than December 31, 2017.
 - (4) All existing and/or new exterior lighting shall not cause light trespass and shall protect adjacent properties from glare and excessive lighting.
 - (5) Gas station under-canopy fixtures shall be lamped so as not to exceed light level measurements as recommended in RP33, Table 2.⁶
 - (6) All ATM and bank lighting shall conform to the provisions of the New York State ATM Safety Act, as contained in the New

4. Editor's Note: The tables are included as attachments to this chapter.

York State Banking Law § 75-a et seq., and the provisions of this article.

- (7) All Long Island Power Authority leased preexisting nonconforming unshielded floodlight fixtures, including GE Powerflood, mercury-vapor fixtures, and all one-thousand-watt fixtures shall not be relamped, repaired or replaced.
- F. All Long Island Power Authority (LIPA) leased preexisting nonconforming fixtures shall be replaced on or before December 31, 2010, with full cutoff fixtures and must meet the light solutions "Installation and Criteria" as adopted by LIPA on March 24, 2006: **[Added 4-17-2018 by L.L. No. 9-2018]**
- (1) Light levels shall not exceed recommendations (Table 1).
- G. Prohibited exterior lighting. The following types of lighting are prohibited: **[Added 4-17-2018 by L.L. No. 9-2018]**
- (1) Searchlights, except those used for governmental, emergency and law enforcement purposes.
- (2) Strobe lights, laser lights, or revolving lighting.
- (3) Neon lights, except as legally permitted.
- (4) Blinking, pulsating, tracing, or flashing lights, unless temporarily triggered by a security system.
- (5) Any light fixture that may be construed as or confused with a traffic signal, traffic control device or maritime navigational markers.
- (6) Lighting that is determined by municipal law enforcement personnel to contribute to disabling or distracting glare into a public roadway.
- (7) Any light fixture located within a designated nature preserve, easement, or waterway.
- (8) Illuminated signs without a municipal permit.
- (9) Nonmunicipal recreational field lighting, including but not limited to tennis, basketball and handball courts, and sports fields, including but not limited to baseball, soccer, and football, without site plan approval and a building permit.
- (10) Privately owned or leased light fixtures located on public utility poles or located in the public right-of-way are prohibited.
- (11) No exterior LED light fixtures shall exceed 3,000K.
- (12) Mercury vapor.
- (13) Unshielded LED lamps, except as exempt for holiday lighting.
- (14) Metal halide, except as approved by the Town Engineer and only when the correlated color temperature (CCT) is less than

5. Editor's Note: Table 1 is included as an attachment to this chapter.

6. Editor's Note: Table 2 is included as an attachment to this chapter.

3,200K and when the arc tube of the lamp is enclosed with a protective acrylic or tempered glass shroud.