

IS YOUR PROPERTY IN

COMPLIANCE

WITH THE

CITY OF BOULDER'S
OUTDOOR LIGHTING

REGULATIONS?



COLORADO LIGHTING WILL HELP YOU REACH COMPLIANCE IN 4 STEPS!

- ✓ **1 - CONDUCT A LIGHTING ASSESSMENT** of current outdoor lighting.
- ✓ **2 - CREATE A PROPOSAL** with our recommendations to bring the property into compliance. Variances will be described if needed. This proposal will be part of the submission to the City of Boulder.
- ✓ **3 - DESIGN A PHOTO-METRIC LIGHT PLAN** to show the property is in compliance. This will be part of the submission to the City of Boulder.
- ✓ **4 - INSTALL & COMPLETE THE WORK** per the approved lighting proposal and **SIGN EXTERIOR LIGHTING CERTIFICATION** verifying the work was completed to the standards of the City of Boulder's Outdoor Lighting Regulations (Section 9-9-16, "Outdoor Lighting," B.R.C.1981).

TIME IS OF THE ESSENCE! Active Enforcement starts November 2019

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City of Boulder Outdoor Lighting Notice:

Full compliance with the city's outdoor lighting regulations begins on Nov. 16, 2018. City Council requested that the city's enforcement plan begin active enforcement Nov. 2019. This allows properties not seeking building permits ONE YEAR (after Nov. 2018) to upgrade their outdoor lighting to comply.

In 2003, the City of Boulder adopted regulations limiting and restricting outdoor lighting output and fixture design to reduce light pollution, promote energy efficient design and restrict lighting such that excess light does not go into the sky. **The Outdoor Lighting Regulations (found in Section 9-9-16, "Outdoor Lighting," B.R.C. 1981)** have been implemented and enforced through building permits and complaints for 15 years. When originally adopted, the Outdoor Lighting Regulations included a 15-year period for all properties to become fully compliant (for those that did not receive permits or did not change out fixtures to compliant fixtures). This period was set to expire on July 15, 2018. City Council extended this date to Nov. 15, 2018.

What does this mean for my property? If you have not obtained a building permit since 2003 that demonstrated full compliance with the Outdoor Lighting Regulations or you are not certain your property complies, you will need to work toward bringing your outdoor lighting into compliance. **Full compliance will technically be required on Nov. 16, 2018.**

Commercial, Industrial, Mixed Use or Multi-family Residential seeking a Building Permits: **Any building permit submitted after that date will require full compliance with Section 9-9-16, B.R.C. 1981. To avoid any permitting issues/delays, it is strongly suggested that you bring your site into compliance at your earliest convenience.**

Non compliant Commercial, Industrial, Mixed Use or Multi-family Residential properties not seeking a Building Permit: Properties not seeking permits are encouraged to work toward compliance before the city begins any active enforcement action on properties. **City Council requested that the city's enforcement plan begin active enforcement Nov. 2019.** This allows properties not seeking building permits ONE YEAR (after Nov. 2018) to upgrade their outdoor lighting to comply. Complaints by community members may require immediately compliance.

Rental Licenses (multi-family): If you are seeking approval of a rental license for an apartment building, a recent ordinance will require inspections for compliance with the Outdoor Lighting Regulations before the rental license is issued. If a site with apartments does not have compliant lighting, a "reduced term" license will be issued. In such case, the property owner of the apartment building or buildings will have ONE YEAR (after the approval of the rental license) to bring the site into compliance. Once compliant, a full term, four-year license can be obtained. Properties that are not compliant after one year will not be granted a rental license until the outdoor lighting is upgraded.

Multi-family Residential, Commercial, Mixed-Use, Industrial or Public: Multifamily residential, commercial, mixed-use, industrial or public buildings are required to meet specific regulations on the design and output of each light, as well as limits on the height of lighting poles. Lights are required to be full cut-off (as discussed above), aim downward and must not exceed specified lighting outputs (measured in Lumens) for each type of fixture, or maximum readings on the ground (measured in Footcandles) across the entire site. Specific footcandle maximums apply to different parts of a site or building. For instance, light levels can be higher at building entries and parking areas as compared to other common areas on the site. Lighting levels are required to drop to nearly 0 footcandles at any property line. No bulbs are permitted to be above 3,000 (K) Kelvin in correlated color temperature. See section 9-9-16, "Outdoor Lighting", B.R.C. 1981 for these specific requirements.

To determine compliance with the specifications in Section 9-9-16, B.R.C. 1981, a lighting certification shall be completed by an architect, electrical engineer, electrical contractor, or lighting consultant responsible for the plans or the final installation. If existing lighting is not compliant or changes include upgraded lighting, lighting plans will be required as part of building permit applications to show compliance but may also be necessary as part of any rental license for a multi-family residential project or in response to any lighting related complaint to confirm compliance with the Outdoor Lighting Regulations.

Information was provided by the City of Boulder Planning and Development Services

<https://bouldercolorado.gov/plan-develop/outdoor-lighting-ordinance>