

The Agua Fria National Monument is located approximately 40 miles north of Phoenix. The monument is best known for having one of the most significant systems of prehistoric sites in the American Southwest. In addition to the rich record of human history, the monument contains outstanding riparian areas and biological resources including its natural night sky darkness.



DARK SKY



The Friends of Agua Fria National Monument (FAFNM) is currently working with the International Dark-Sky Association (IDA) to request designation of the Agua Fria National Monument to be recognized as an IDA Dark-Sky Park

The application process for Dark-Sky Park certification takes 2-3 years to complete and requires recording of dark sky qualities, community education, and park resource planning.

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AGUA FRIA ASTRONOMY(AFAC) COMMITTEE



AFAC is a sub-committee for the Friends of Agua Fria National Monument established to educate the public about the importance of natural darkness and the benefits of quality lighting

Proper Use of Lighting

- 1) Always choose fully shielded fixtures that emit no light upward
- 2) Use “warm-white” or filtered LEDs to minimize blue emission
- 3) Look for products with adaptive controls like dimmers, timers, or motion sensors
- 4) Consider dimming or turning off the lights during overnight hours
- 5) Avoid temptation to over-light because of higher luminous efficiency of LEDs
- 6) Only light the exact space and in the amount required for particular tasks

Protecting the night sky starts with **YOU!**

- 1 Light only what you need
- 2 Use energy efficient bulbs and only as bright as you need
- 3 Shield lights and direct them down
- 4 Only use light when you need it
- 5 Choose warm white light bulbs
- 6 Join IDA!

We need your help to continue the fight against light pollution

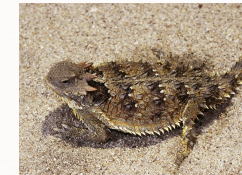
ida INTERNATIONAL DARK SKY ASSOCIATION
darksky.org

LIGHT POLLUTION

Artificial lights overpower the darkness and our cities glow at night, disrupting the natural day-night pattern and shifting the delicate balance of our environment. The negative effects of the loss of this inspirational natural resource might seem intangible. But a growing body of evidence links the brightening night sky directly to measurable negative impacts including

EFFECTS ON WILDLIFE

- Disruption in reproductive behavior reduces population
- Alteration of migration patterns
- Difficulty foraging for food due to too much light
- Confusion of natural instincts contributes to death



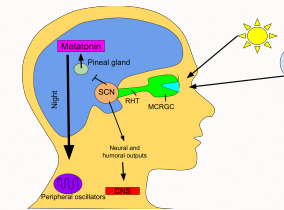
horned lizard



Yellow-billed cuckoo

EFFECTS ON HEALTH

- Disability glare and contrast sensitivity
- Disruption of sleep patterns and result of disease
- Interference of melatonin production
- Artificial blue light impairs night vision



How light effects our hormone cycle



Human Circadian Rhythm

EFFECTS ON HERITAGE

- Loss of navigation using the night sky
- Unable to follow or recognize celestial objects
- Most of the world population hasn't seen the milky way
- Inability to interpret the night sky like our ancestors



Sky glow from urban areas dilutes out natural darkness



Bortles scale shows loss of celestial bodies