

- * First General Meeting Called
- * N.H. State Bill Update
- * Local Efforts Continue
- * Education: Motion Detectors

1. The First General Meeting of the NHCRL membership will take place on Saturday, March 25th at 3pm at the Manchester Library on Pine Street. This meeting will be to learn and discuss issues related to Light Pollution and Trespass here in the region. It will be an informal atmosphere to allow for debate and give and take on our concerns. There will be free handouts and experts on LP/LT available.

Directions: The Manchester Library is located on Pine Street in the middle of Manchester. From Route 3 going North: Granite Street Exit (#5), Right (east) off exit for 0.6 miles. Forced turn left onto Pine Street. Library is on right 0.3 miles. Park in lot across street.

From Route 3 Going South; take Amoskeag Bridge exit (#6). Stay to right and go onto rotary ¼ turn. Take Salmon Street 0.5 miles east, across Elm Street, and take right onto Chestnut Street. Go 0.7 miles and park in lot on the left. Library is across the street. Library phone is 624-6550.

2. Our Statewide Bill was amended into a Study Committee last year. This Study Committee is made up of House and Senate members who meet every month. At these meetings, the public is invited to help discuss and learn more in order to conclude with proposed legislation in November, 2000. This legislation will then be voted upon this time next year.

One concern is that some lobbyists are now trying to scuttle our attempts to get meaningful legislation. Those who profit by preventing any new regulation of light pollution/trespassing fixtures and the power they consume want no law at all.

If you can, please write a letter to the Study Committee asking them for meaningful legislation to protect our night sky, save money and resources and increase safety and security.

Light Pollution Study Committee

C/O NHCRL, 461 Front St, #1, Manchester, NH 03102

3. On a local level, NHCRL continues to help N.H. citizens in cities and towns to request and pass Site Plans and Ordinances against Light Pollution/Trespass. Right now, there are 22 towns/cities with efforts under way to request protection for their neighborhoods where they live. The quality of life must be protected where we live.

A Site Plan is a control that the local Planning Board uses to be sure new and refurbished buildings don't upset the environment of their surrounds.

An ordinance is a local law that requires certain attributes of outdoor lighting be defined and controlled.

If you would like to help in your own city of town enact protection from Light Pollution/Trespass, just contact NHCRL at the email:

Peletier@grolen.com or sforbes@bit-net.com

4. Motion detectors are a great way of saving money, increasing security/safety and decreasing light pollution/trespass. Consider the cost savings:
100 Watt flood light, two per fixture, on constantly for 10 hours a day, 365 days a year at \$0.13 a Kilowatt/hour.

100 Watts x 10 hours = 1 KW/hr x \$0.13 x 365 = \$47.45 per light per year !
With my six lights on my house, that would be over \$280 per year. Now, with motion detectors, my total cost is about \$80 per year.

Safety and security are enhanced with motion detectors. A light that is on constantly does not chase away a criminal like a bright light that rapidly turns on when the criminal enters your property. Also, lights that are on constantly glare into the eyes of police that could possibly spot a criminal trying to break into your property.

Also, lights that glare all night into your neighbor's bedroom window are not only a waste of money, but bad manners.

That's all for the newsletter. Hope to see you at the general meeting 25 March, Saturday at 3pm at the Manchester Library.