

## **CHAPTER 19**

### **Outdoor Lighting For Business & Industrial Uses**

*Adopted 3-13-12*

#### **Sec. 19-1. Purpose and Intent**

#### **Sec. 19-2. Outdoor Lighting Standards**

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#### **Sec. 19- 1. Purpose and Intent**

The purpose and intent is to establish outdoor lighting standards for Business and Industrial zoning districts (B-1, B-2 and M-1) that would reduce the impacts of glare, light trespass, overlighting, poorly shielded or inappropriately directed lighting fixtures and that promote safety and encourage energy conservation with lighting directed onto and confined to the property from which it is generated.

#### **Sec. 19- 2. Outdoor Lighting Standards**

- a) Parking lot light fixtures and light fixtures on buildings shall be full cut-off fixtures. The term full cut-off has and is being used to describe luminaires that have no direct uplight (no light emitted above horizontal).
- b) In parking lots, light fixtures shall not be more than twenty feet (20') in height in business zoned districts and no more than thirty feet (30') in height in industrial zoned districts.
- c) Businesses and institutions with outdoor lighting, such as parking lot lights, building lights, landscaping lights and other similar exterior lighting features, are encouraged to extinguish such lights at the end of the working day, except for lights necessary for personal and building safety.
- d) Street lighting shall be provided in accordance with the requirements of the Design and Construction Standards Manual (VDOT).
- e) Flashing, revolving, or intermittent exterior lighting visible from any property line or street shall be prohibited. High intensity light beams, such as, but not limited to, outdoor searchlights, lasers or strobe lights shall be prohibited.

- f) Light fixtures under any canopy shall be recessed into the canopy ceiling with a flat lens to prevent glare.
- g) All light fixtures/light poles shall be set back a minimum of one foot for every foot in height from any residential property line or residential right-of-way.

### **Sec. 19- 3 Site Plan Requirements for Outdoor Lighting**

As part of the submission for a site plan or a building, electrical or sign permit to install outdoor lighting fixtures as part of the application, the applicant shall submit evidence that the proposed work complies with this section. All outdoor lighting shall be indicated on such.

### **Sec. 19- 4 Definitions**

**Full Cut-off:** Full Cut-off means a light fixture designed and constructed so that light is directed down and no light is projected above the horizontal plane.

**Glare:** Glare means stray, unshielded light striking the eye that may result in (a) nuisance or annoyance such as light shining into a wind; (b) discomfort causing squinting of the eyes; (c) disabling vision by reducing the ability of the eyes to see into the shadows; or (d) reduction of visual performance.

**Light Trespass:** Light trespass occurs when unwanted light shines on neighboring property or in neighboring windows or when the tranquility of the nighttime environment is disturbed and the quality of life diminished.

**Overlighting:** Overlighting is too strong a light or too bright a light

**Shielding:** Shielding means (a) sufficient lighting at building entrances, exits, walkways and parking areas to allow customers and employees to see any physical barriers and to be seen at all times as they access to vehicles and sidewalks, and (b) the use of full cut-off light fixtures above doors, at fire service stations, loading areas, and similar building access points.

**Unshielded:** Unshielded means light fixtures lacking any means to restrict the emitted light to below the horizontal plane or to shine or glare onto adjacent or nearby property.

### **Sec. 19- 5 Compliance**

Compliance with this section shall be confirmed by Zoning Administrator. Certificate of Occupancy shall not be issued until approved by Zoning Administrator.

### **Sec. 19-6 Interpretation by Enforcement Official**

If any dispute occurs over the meaning of a word, phrase or a sentence of this chapter, whether defined in this chapter or not, the Zoning Administrator is designated as the enforcement official and is authorized to make a definitive determination thereof, being guided in such determination by the purposes and intent of this chapter and the Bath County Land Use Regulations; provided, however, that an appeal may be taken from any such determination as provided for herein.