



Lights Out

Save Birds ◦ Save Energy ◦ Save Money

Lights Out Saves Birds

Over 250 species of birds migrate through Missouri each spring and fall, many of them at night. Lighted structures along their routes can disorient birds, which wastes their limited energy stores as they find their way again. Too often, disoriented birds fly into windows, resulting in injury or death. An estimated 600 million birds die each year in the United States in window collisions.

Lights Out can help! A study by the Field Museum in Chicago found that turning off the lights at one downtown high-rise reduced migratory bird deaths by 83%.



Kentucky Warblers (above) are one of more than 250 bird species that migrate through or breed in Missouri and benefit from Lights Out. Photo by Shelby Thomas.

Lights Out Saves Energy and Money

Turning off building lights at night is good for birds, people, and the planet. By saving electricity, Lights Out cuts the cost of doing business, and by reducing energy use, Lights Out helps to lower carbon pollution. Lights Out is effective at home, too!

How Does Lights Out Work?

Lights Out offers a voluntary pathway for building owners, managers, and tenants to work together to ensure that unnecessary lighting is turned off from midnight to dawn during spring and fall migration:

- March 15 to May 31
- August 15 to October 31

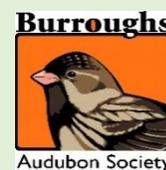
What Can Building Owners and Managers Do?

- Turn off exterior decorative lighting (leave security lighting on as needed)
- Down-shield exterior lighting to block light shining up into the sky
- Install automatic motion sensors and controls wherever possible
- Dim lobby and atrium lighting
- Turn off interior lights, especially on upper floors
- Assess quality and quantity of light needed to avoid over-lighting

What Can Employees and Tenants Do?

- If working at night, use task lighting rather than overhead lighting, or close blinds or drapes
- Talk with your employer and co-workers about Lights Out

Save birds, energy, and money by turning off unnecessary lights. Enroll your building in Lights Out! Please contact [LightsOutHeartland](#) or [BirdSafeKC](#) for more information.



BirdSafeKC is a partnership between Missouri River Bird Observatory, Burroughs Audubon, and JCCC Zero Waste Coordinator.