

**AS A MATTER OF FACT, IT IS**  
**AGAINST THE LAW!**

**ARIZONA REVISED STATUTES TITLE 49,  
CHAPTER SEVEN IS THE "DARK SKY  
ORDINANCE."**

Passed in 1987, the law says that all non-conforming yard or porch lights must be off from midnight until dawn to give amateur astronomers and star-gazers a chance to enjoy the beauty of the night-time Arizona skies.

It further states that mercury-vapor lights are not to be installed after 1987 or repaired after 1991 and further, they will all need to be removed by the year 2001.

**SO BE A GOOD NEIGHBOR AND INSTALL  
MOTION DETECTOR LIGHTS!**

**Arizona Revised Statutes Title 49 - The Environment**

**Chapter 7 - LIGHT POLLUTION Article 1 - General Provisions**

**49-1101. Definitions**

In this article, unless the context otherwise requires:

1. "Fully shielded" means that fixtures are shielded in such a manner that light rays emitted by the fixture, either directly from the lamp or indirectly from the fixture, are projected below a horizontal plane running through the lowest point on the fixture where light is emitted.
2. "Outdoor light fixture" means outdoor artificial illuminating devices, lamps and other devices, permanent or portable, used for illumination or advertisement. Such devices shall include, but are not limited to, search, spot or flood lights for buildings and structures, recreational areas, parking lot lighting, landscape lighting, billboards and other signage and street lighting.
3. "Partially shielded" means that fixtures are shielded in such a manner that the bottom edge of the shield is below the plane of the center line of the lamp reducing light above the horizontal.

**49-1102.\*\* Shielding of outdoor light fixtures**

All outdoor light fixtures shall be fully or partially shielded except incandescent fixtures of one hundred fifty watts or less and other sources of seventy watts or less. Streetlight fixtures are exempt from this requirement if the shielding is not available from the manufacturer.

**49-1103. Nonconforming light fixtures**

In addition to other exemptions provided in this article, outdoor light fixtures not meeting the provisions of this article shall be allowed provided such fixtures are extinguished between the hours of midnight and sunrise by an automatic shutoff device.

**49-1104. Use of mercury vapor light fixtures**

A. No new mercury vapor outdoor light fixtures shall be installed after the effective date of this section. No replacement equipment other than bulbs for mercury vapor lighting fixtures shall be sold in the state after January 1, 1991 and the use of mercury vapor light fixtures is prohibited after January 1, 2011.

B. The provisions of this section shall not apply to outdoor light systems erected prior to 1950.

**49-1105. Airport lighting**

Nothing in this article shall apply to navigational lighting systems at airports

**49-1106.\*\* Exemption of cities, towns and counties**

The provisions of this article are cumulative and supplemental and shall not apply within any county, city or town which by ordinance or resolution has adopted provisions restricting light pollution which are equal to or more stringent than the provisions of this chapter.