

Intrusive lighting - Outdoor lighting on residential premises

Light can become a problem when it causes a nuisance to your neighbours. This factsheet aims to help you to reduce the possible impact of outdoor lighting and prevent light pollution.

Intrusive light can come from numerous sources including security lights, spot lights and flood lights. To prevent impacts upon your neighbours you should prevent light from your property spilling over the fence into neighboring properties.

Intrusive Lighting

Council may investigate complaints about light and glare that come from advertising signs, entertainment venues and events, Council's parks, properties and commercial properties (such as flood lights or sensor lights). Light spill from motorways including on and off ramps, and state roads are the responsibility of the Roads and Maritime Services. (General enquiries - **13 22 13** Monday – Friday from 7:00am - 7:00pm).

Light spill from residential premises is generally a private matter, however Council may contact a property owner seeking cooperation to mitigate a problem.

Some development consents issued by Council may include conditions which may be used to address light nuisance.

Ways to reduce potential light pollution

- Turn off lights when not in use. Consider installing motion sensor switches on outside lights.
- Locate lights as far as possible from neighbours and away from sensitive areas, such as bedroom windows.

- Avoid placing a light near a reflective surface.
- Wherever possible, direct light downwards to illuminate the target area.
- If there is no alternative to up-lighting, fit shields and baffles to help keep spill light to a minimum. Some equipment can minimise light spread near, or above, the horizontal.
- Don't over light. It can cause light pollution and wastes energy.



Resolving a neighbour dispute

The Community Justice Centre (CJC) offers advice on how to work out problems between neighbours, including matters like intrusive lighting. Contact the CJC via;

Phone: 1800 990 777

E-mail: cjc_sydney@agd.nsw.gov.au

Website: www.cjc.nsw.gov.au

Address: Level 5, Parramatta Justice Precinct,
160 Marsden Street
Parramatta NSW 2150

For further information

Further information regarding intrusive lighting, please contact Council's Environmental Health Officer on:

Phone: 02 9330 6400

E-mail: mail@georgesriver.nsw.gov.au