



Lights Out Harrisburg

April 1st - May 31th

August 15th - November 15th

Save the birds at night by turning off the light

Dear Residents and Building Owners,

Approximately **one billion birds die** each year after colliding with buildings in North America. The Lights Out Harrisburg Coalition would like your help to reduce this threat utilizing a simple solution—reducing building lights at night in the Harrisburg area.

Each year, a large number of birds pass through Harrisburg traveling (mostly at night) between their breeding and wintering grounds. Unfortunately, because of urban development many migrating birds do not survive the journey. At night, birds are often drawn in by urban lighting and risk colliding with windows and buildings. In fact, building collisions is a leading cause of death for migrating birds around the world.

Lights Out is a voluntary program that involves turning off and minimizing external and internal building lights at night, during spring and fall migration, to reduce the risk of bird collisions. Harrisburg joined this national movement to protect birds, along with 40 other cities across the country including Philadelphia and Pittsburgh. Participation in the Lights Out program will not only save birds, but it also will save energy and money by reducing operating costs. In the end, we all win.

How will Harrisburg be participating? Committed partners of the Lights Out Harrisburg Coalition will be turning off (and/or dimming) exterior and interior lights during the migratory season's overnight hours (12 a.m. - 6 a.m.). Using lighting controls, education, and manually ensuring lights are dimmed and turned off will help reduce bird collisions and save countless migratory bird lives each year.

How can you help? From **April 1–May 31** and **August 15–November 15**, we are asking you to turn off unnecessary lights between midnight and 6 a.m. Your enthusiastic support of *Lights Out Harrisburg* in this regard will be much appreciated. We intend to promote this program and the businesses that participate. You can find out more about Lights Out Harrisburg and pledge to turn off lights at <https://www.appalachianaudubon.org/conservation.html>

Together we can build a future in which building collisions is no longer a leading threat to birds.

Sincerely,

The Lights Out Harrisburg Coalition

