



General Conditions:

- After 10 pm, only security lighting is allowed. “Security lighting” refers to luminaires that operate dusk-to-dawn in order to provide for protection of property and safety for individuals. They shall conform to all sections of this chapter
- Non full cutoff and non shielded incandescents greater than 150 watts, and all other lights greater than 70 watts installed prior to ordinance are non-conforming, and must be automatically turned off between midnight and sunrise.
- All other non conforming fixtures shall be turned off between the hours of 10 pm and 6 am.
- Searchlights and strobe/flashing lights are not allowed without a separate permit
- Lasers, exposed neon, and other intense light sources are not allowed in Zone 1 but are allowed in Zones 2 and 3 subject to conditions set forth during Planning Review
- All site perimeter lights located within 50’ of a single family residence property line must have house-side shielding.
- Flagpole lighting—restricted to state and federal flags, light source shielded from adjacent properties.
- Horse arenas –lights at 40’ or less must be full cutoff,; over 40’ may be sports style floodlights with shielding so that none of the light sources are visible at any of the property lines.



Why the light ordinance?

Many people move to Pinal County because they enjoy the lovely evening dark skies. As developments increase, and new homes and commercial centers are built, the concern for light trespass, or light spilling into the sky and onto neighboring properties becomes of utmost importance to our citizens. Dark skies and unobtrusive lights are of great value to our residents, and the intent of the lighting ordinance is to provide safe lighting yet preserve the tranquility of the evening darkness.



For that reason, the lighting ordinance calls out restrictions for types of fixtures and the amount of light, or lumens, that can be “spilled out” onto adjacent property and the sky.

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Lighting Guidelines



PINAL COUNTY
WIDE OPEN OPPORTUNITY



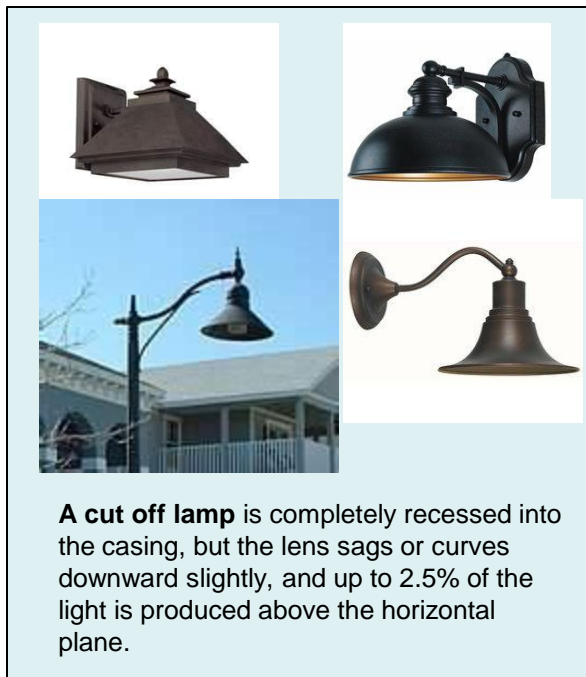
The outdoor lighting ordinance applies to all residential and non residential lighting in unincorporated Pinal County, and recognizes the intent of the International Dark Sky Association. It applies to all new and replacement lighting, and encourages a balance between safety and aesthetics, proper quality and quantity of nighttime illumination, while minimizing light trespass into surrounding areas and our night skies.

Chapter 2.195 Outdoor Lighting

In order to be more responsive to the special needs of different portions of the county, a system of three different lighting zones has been established based upon the current and/or planned uses and ambient brightness of the area. Each lighting zone will have different development requirements and lighting restrictions. See the zoning code for more details.

Lighting Zone 1: Low ambient light areas are found in zoning districts: CAR, CR-1, CR-1A, CR-2, CR-3, GR, SH, MH, and SR. All fixtures, shall be shielded and/or located so that the light source is not directly visible from beyond any of the property lines. Pole- or wall-mounted luminaires shall be full-cutoff luminaires only. The mounting height of any building-mounted fixture shall not exceed 15 feet from finished grade to the center of the fixture. Spill light from adjacent properties shall not exceed 0.30 footcandles within eight feet of any single-family residence between the hours of 10:00 p.m. and 6:00 a.m.

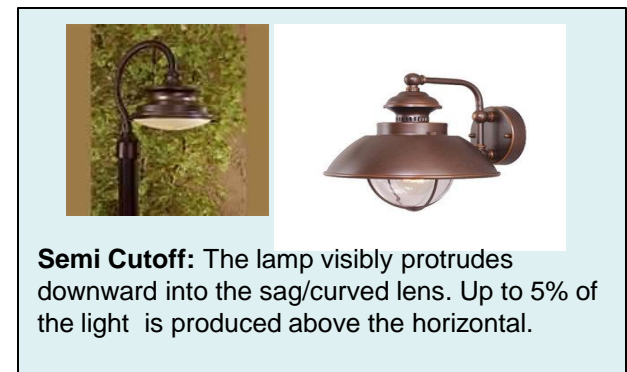
A full cut-off lamp is completely recessed into the luminaire and the lens is flat. No light is produced above the horizontal plane.



A cut off lamp is completely recessed into the casing, but the lens sags or curves downward slightly, and up to 2.5% of the light is produced above the horizontal plane.

Lighting Zone 2: Medium ambient light areas are found in zoning districts: CB-1, CR-4, CR-5, MHP, PM/RVP, RV, AND TR. In this zone, 1800 lumens or less can have full, semi, or cutoff luminaires but must be shielded so that the light source is not directly visible from any of the property lines. Luminaires cannot exceed 8' in height within 30' of another residential property line. Luminaires cannot exceed 15' in height, when located between 30 and 150 ft from a residential property and not blocked by another structure. The mounting height of any building mounted fixture shall not exceed 20 ft from the finished grade to the center of the fixture. Poles cannot exceed 25' in height. Poles must be painted dark and be non reflective. Spill light at any point on any of the property lines shall not exceed .80 foot-candles during business hours, and .30 foot-candles between the hours of 10 pm to 6 am. (security lighting only).

Lighting Zone 3: High Ambient light areas are found in zoning districts: CB-2, CI-1, CI-2 and CI-B. In this zone, pole or wall mounted luminaires less than or equal to 3500 lumens may be full, semi, or cutoff. All other pole mounted luminaires shall be full cutoff. Luminaires cannot exceed 8' in height within 30' of another residential property line. Pole lights cannot exceed 15' in height, when located between 30 and 150 ft from a residential property and not blocked by another structure. All other poles cannot exceed 30' in height. Only 1.50 vertical foot-candles during normal business hours, and after that only .80 vertical foot-candles is allowed. Security only lighting allowed after 10 pm.



Semi Cutoff: The lamp visibly protrudes downward into the sag/curved lens. Up to 5% of the light is produced above the horizontal.

Application Process:

If you are applying for a building permit and you are installing new outdoor lights, please show the light location on the building site plan and bring cut sheets along showing the light fixtures.

If you are applying only for a light permit:

Bring in:

- Site plan of the property showing the location of all existing and proposed outdoor light fixtures labeled by type.
- Completed lumen calculation table.
- Manufacturers' catalog cuts (pictures) and specifications (lumen output) for each type of proposed fixture.