

# What is A light Management Plan?

A light management plan (LMP) is a comprehensive strategy developed by municipalities, organisations, or businesses to effectively manage outdoor lighting within a specific area. The primary goal of an LMP is to minimise light pollution, reduce energy consumption, and promote environmental conservation, while still ensuring adequate lighting for safety, security, and visibility.

Key components of a light management plan typically include:

1. **Assessment:** Conducting an inventory and assessment of existing outdoor lighting fixtures, including their type, location, intensity, and duration/times of use.
2. **Regulations and Guidelines:** Establishing regulations, standards, and guidelines for outdoor lighting design and installation to minimise light pollution and energy waste. This may include restrictions on light intensity, direction, colour temperature, and shielding requirements.
3. **Zoning and Designation:** Designating different zones within the area based on lighting needs and sensitivity to light pollution. This may involve identifying areas where lighting is essential for safety and security (e.g., roadways, public spaces) and areas where minimising light pollution is a priority (e.g., residential neighbourhoods, natural habitats).
4. **Technology and Retrofitting:** Encouraging the use of energy-efficient lighting technologies, such as LEDs, and implementing retrofitting programs to replace outdated or inefficient fixtures with dark sky-friendly alternatives.
5. **Education and Outreach:** Providing education and outreach programs to raise awareness about the impacts of light pollution and the importance of responsible outdoor lighting practices among residents, businesses, and stakeholders.
6. **Compliance and Monitoring:** Implementing mechanisms for monitoring and enforcing compliance with LMP regulations, including regular inspections, audits, and reporting requirements.
7. **Adaptation and Review:** Continuously evaluating the effectiveness of the LMP and making necessary adjustments or updates based on changes in technology, regulations, or community needs.

Overall, a light management plan aims to balance the need for adequate outdoor lighting with the protection of the night sky, wildlife habitats, and human health and well-being. By implementing sustainable lighting practices and policies, communities can reduce light pollution, conserve energy, and create more liveable and environmentally friendly spaces.