

# LIGHTS OUT PHILLY



## FAQs for Property Building Managers

### What is Lights Out Philly?

Lights Out is a national program with more than 32 participating cities. Philadelphia is launching Lights Out Philly in spring 2021. You can be one of the first to join in this effort! We are asking building managers and tenants of commercial and residential buildings to turn off lights during bird migration seasons to help save birds, save energy, and save money. Simply turn off your lights between midnight and 6 a.m. during spring migration, April 1–May 31, and fall migration, August 15–November 15.

### Are other cities participating?

Nationally, cities including New York, Boston, Chicago, Atlanta, Baltimore and Washington, D.C. have Lights Out programs. Participating buildings include The Chrysler Building, Rockefeller Center and Time Warner Center.

### Will this cost me money?

No, this is a free program, and you will save money! By turning off lights, you will be lowering your energy usage and saving money on your electric bill.

### What are the building height guidelines?

We encourage that all buildings, regardless of height, participate in this effort. Bird collisions have been documented at all heights, from lobbies to upper floors and are influenced by several factors including reflectivity, lighting, surrounding habitat and design.

### What kind of energy savings will I receive?

Without doubt, turning lights off will save energy, but the exact amount will vary based on the number and intensity of lights you have. One study in Washington D.C. showed that buildings could reduce their energy usage by up to 28% by dimming their night lighting.

### What kind of cost savings will I receive?

This will depend on the specifics of your lighting but there, will clearly be savings. One participating municipal building in the Toronto Lights Out program reported cost savings of more than \$200,000 in a single year.

### Do I need to turn off all my interior lights?

No, however please turn off unnecessary lighting especially in the upper levels, lobby and atrium. Where possible, it is also helpful to turn off interior lights that are closest to windows. If you are unable to turn off interior lights, draw window blinds, shades, drapes or window coverings.

### Do I need to turn off all my exterior lights?

No, however please turn off unnecessary flood lights, decorative, event and spotlights during migration seasons or consider down-shielding lights.

### What if I have lighting for flags?

Please use flagpole lighting products with a down light design.

### What do I tell my tenants?

Remind tenants to turn off lights on unoccupied floors and in unused space from midnight to 6 a.m. When working late, tenants can be encouraged to use task lighting at their workstation and turn off the ceiling lights closest to windows.

### How do I participate?

Sign up at [birdsafephilly.org](https://birdsafephilly.org)