

Dark skies Pledge

We can all do our bit to celebrate and look after our dark skies on the Norfolk Coast and it is easier than you think...



- Plan to do **at least one** thing in the next 12 months to help our dark skies
- Tick your pledge(s) below, post on social media with the hashtag **#Norfolkdarks skiespledge**. Your actions may inspire others to do the same.
- This is a non-binding agreement; maybe place it on your fridge as a useful guide to how you and your family can do your bit for the Norfolk Coast AONB's dark skies.

	<p>1. Get out there and enjoy the night skies! The Norfolk Coast boasts lots of places where you can see the Milky Way and countless constellations. Visit our Dark Sky Discovery Sites which have some of the most pristine night skies in the country http://www.norfolkcoastaonb.org.uk/partnership/dark-sky-discovery-sites/1160</p>
	<p>2. Light only what needs lighting Look at your property. Take time to consider whether lighting is even needed – in many cases no lighting may be needed at all.</p>
	<p>3. Use only the amount of light that is needed How much light do you actually need to see by? Don't always install the brightest bulbs. Warm white light low-energy LED lamps are just as effective. They are more energy efficient than orange or pink bulbs, so will save you money AND they don't waste light up into the sky (or your neighbour's bedroom window).</p>
	<p>4. Shield your existing light fitting Ensure all outdoor lights are fully shielded i.e. enclosed in full cut-off flat glass fittings (so that no glass is visible beneath the lamp's cover), and directed downwards (mounted horizontally to the ground and not tilted upwards).</p>
	<p>5. Light only when you need it If you think something really does need to be lit, consider whether it needs to be lit continuously from dusk till dawn. Installing movement sensor lights or time switches instead will not only reduce light pollution but also save you pounds AND reduce your carbon emissions.</p>
	<p>6. Use reflectors or solar lights... ...on driveways and in gardens. These are very effective, cheaper to buy and cost nothing to run. Advances in car headlight technology have also improved visibility on the roads in unlit areas.</p>
	<p>7. Use blinds, curtains etc. to minimise light pollution on the landscape from interior lighting. Particularly in unlit villages and hamlets, and on properties with large amounts of glazing, small changes like this help prevent interior lighting spilling into the countryside and impacting on the landscape and wildlife.</p>
	<p>8. Tell your friends, neighbours & communities Encourage everyone to make their pledges to protect dark skies on the coast. It all helps to retain its tranquillity and rural character – one of the reasons why it is designated as an Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONB) and why people love it here.</p>
	<p>9. Encourage and support improved / removal of street-lighting in your area Be it in your village, town or district, the removal of, or replacement with appropriate LED lighting can significantly reduce light pollution AND save money. Speak to your local council representatives.</p>
	<p>10. Contribute to the planning process - encourage better design in new developments Ensure dark skies are prioritised in your area by commenting on planning applications and consultations. Participate in your local Neighbourhood Plan preparation to ensure suitable policies are included to minimise light pollution. Use *CPRE Norfolk's standard light pollution clause at every opportunity to ensure dark skies are included in decision making (http://www.cprenorfolk.org.uk/planning/policy-statements/light-pollution/). For more information on appropriate lighting, see The Institute of Lighting Professionals guidance: https://www.theilp.org.uk/documents/obtrusive-light/</p>



To commit further to your pledge, complete the slip below & send to the Norfolk Coast Partnership for us to follow up with you in the coming months:

We, _____, commit to the following pledges

(e.g. 1,3,5) _____ over the next 12 months

Signed _____ Date _____

Email _____

Email to aonb@norfolk.gov.uk or post to:

Norfolk Coast Partnership, South Wing, Fakenham Fire Station, Norwich Road, Fakenham, Norfolk, NR21 8BB

Data Protection: Please note that we adhere to the GDPR Regulations 2018. We will only use the information collected for the purposes of the Norfolk Coast AONB Dark Skies Project and will not pass on personal information to third parties.

To commit further to your pledge, remove the slip below & give to the Norfolk Coast Partnership for us to follow up with you in the coming months:
