

## Why Lights Out?

Twice each year, millions of birds pass through Connecticut on their way to and from their nesting grounds. Because our state is located on the Atlantic Flyway, many birds use our shorelines and green spaces to rest and refuel during their trip. Some stay for the summer.

Most migratory birds pass over our state at night, when temperatures are cooler and skies are less turbulent. However, artificial lights attract and disorient birds, leading to collisions with buildings. The result is catastrophic: Almost 1 billion birds killed in the United States every year.

# Join Us. Take the Lights Out Pledge!





### www.lightsoutct.org

We are a nonprofit project of the Menunkatuck Audubon Society working to save migratory birds from deadly window collisions and other threats linked to light pollution.

Menunkatuck Audubon Society



Make Connecticut Safer for Migratory Birds

#### The Problem

Overly lit buildings and structures can tempt birds off course into fatal collisions with windows and other reflective materials. In the dark, and especially in foggy or rainy weather, the combination of glass and light becomes deadly. While dozens of species are affected, forest-dwelling passerines are at highest risk, including priority birds such as the Wood Thrush and Golden-winged Warbler.

Every 9 seconds a bird dies from colliding with a building.



Birds killed after colliding with the Yale School of Management Edward P. Evans Hall, at 165 Whitney Ave. A years-long bird collision monitoring program has helped to document the problem. Advocacy for effective mitigation continues. (Viveca Morris)

#### The Solution

**Lights Out Connecticut** is a growing coalition of residents, property owners, businesses, and local partners in Connecticut who pledge to turn off or dim their nonessential lights during periods of peak migration to protect migratory birds.

PEAK MIGRATION: 11pm to 6am, April 1-May 31 & Sept 1-Nov 15

#### What YOU Can Do:

- Use only fully shielded, IDA dark sky certified fixtures for all outdoor lighting.
- Use only the right amount of light needed. Too much light is wasteful and harms wildlife.
- Install timers and dimmer switches and turn off lights when not in use.
- Turn off lights in office buildings and homes when not in use.
- Use only lighting with a color temperature of 3000K and below to reduce the blue (cool) light that is more harmful to many animal species.



Reducing light pollution is an important factor in reducing bird window collisions.



Turn off unnecessary lights.



Install motion sensors & timers to control light so it's turned off when not needed.



Keep indoor light indoors.



Down shield exterior lights so they don't spill beyond where they are





OUR STRATEGIC PARTNERS











