

A Very Special Place



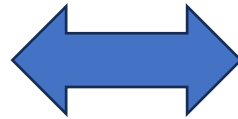
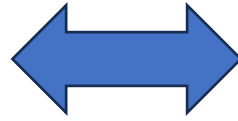
Wakefield Country Day School

January 10, 2024

Did you know you live in a very special place?

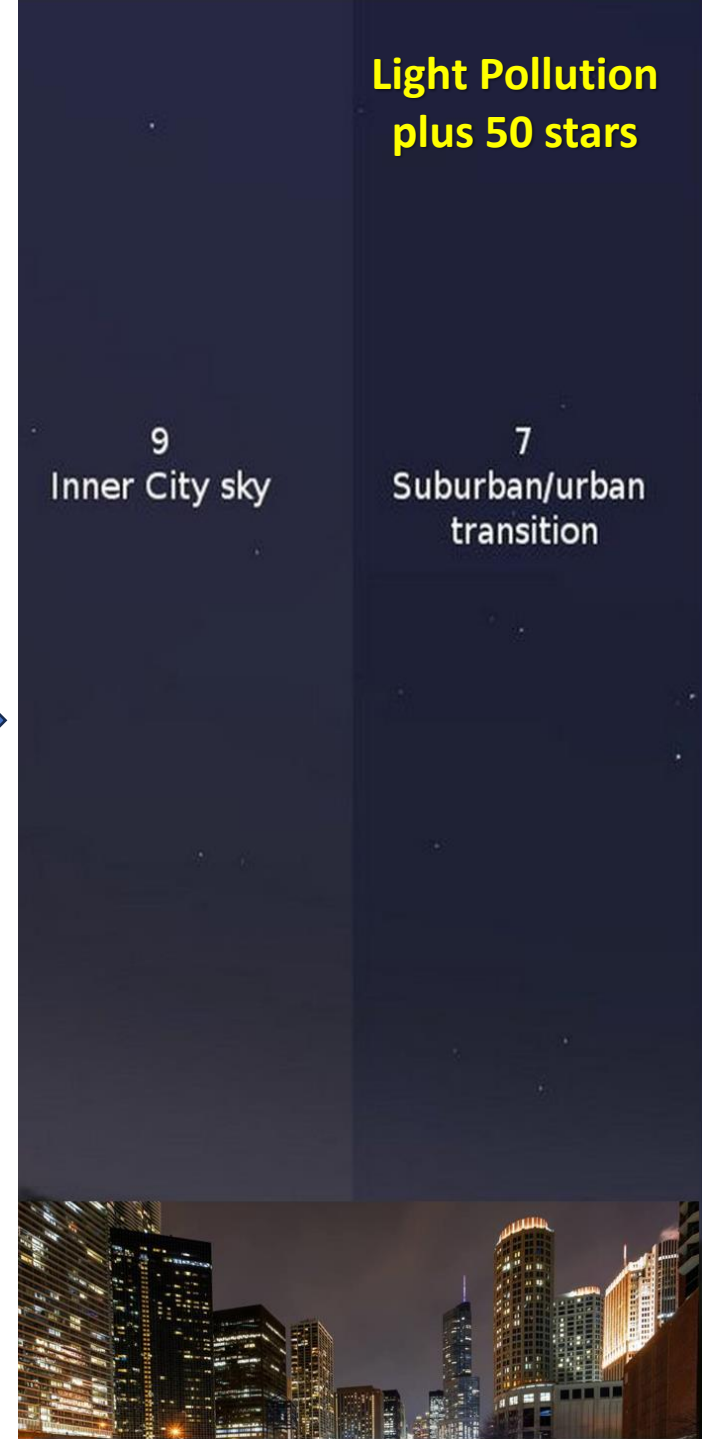
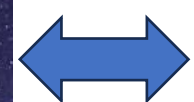


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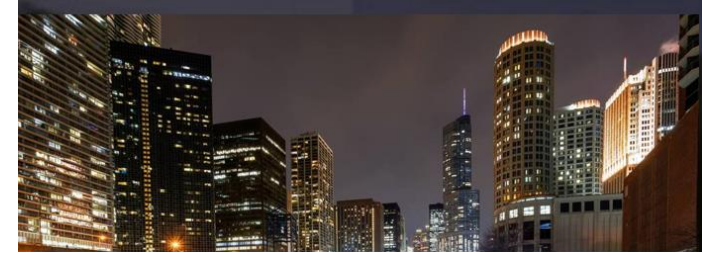
**Milky Way
plus 5000 stars**



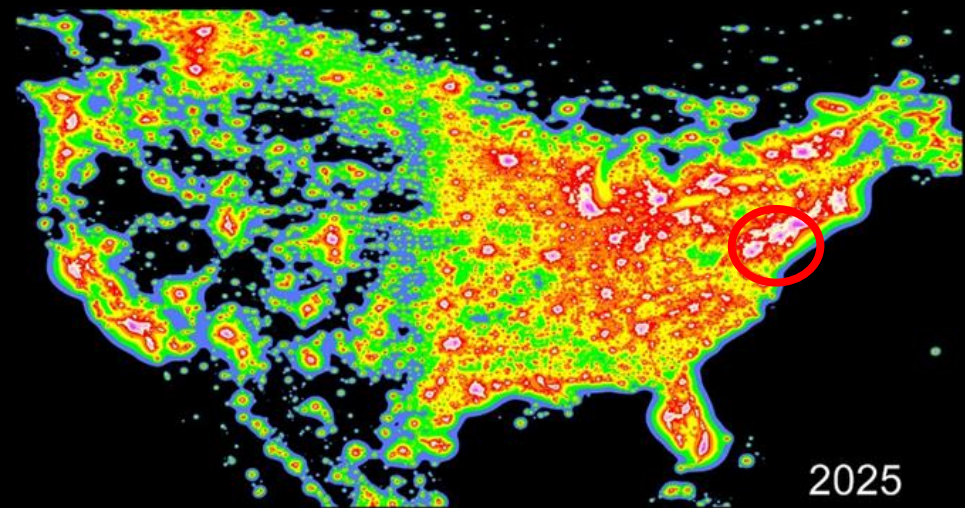
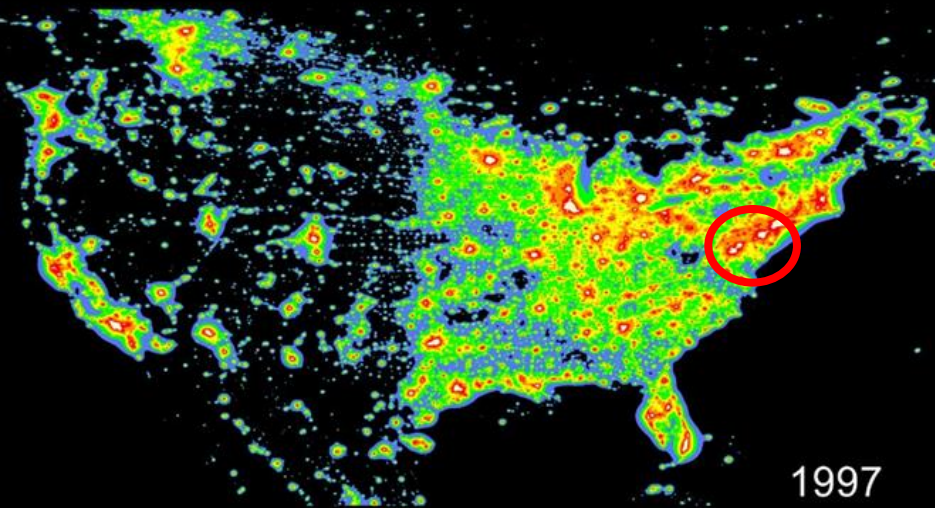
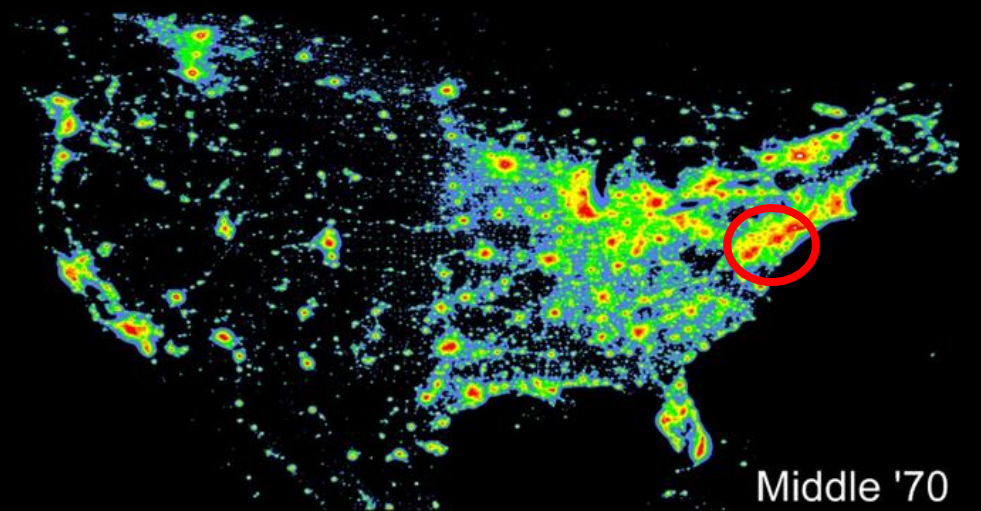
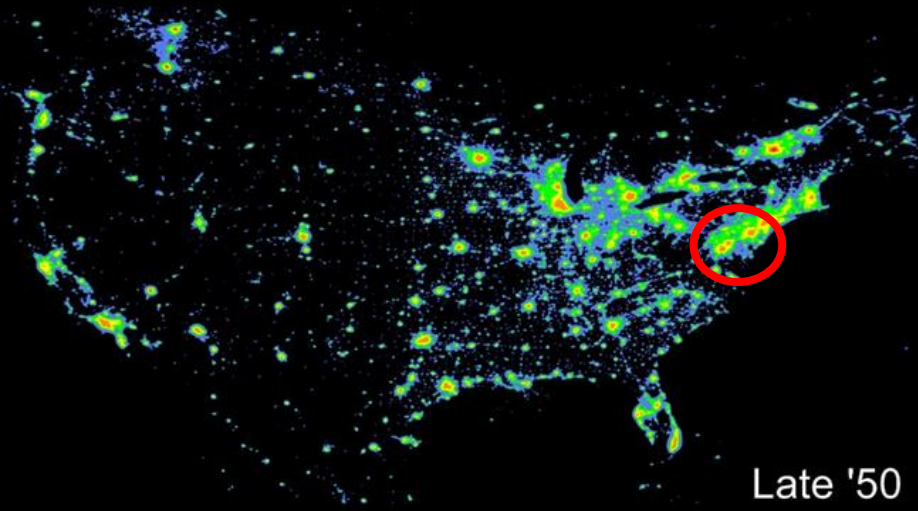
**Light Pollution
plus 50 stars**

9
Inner City sky

7
Suburban/urban
transition

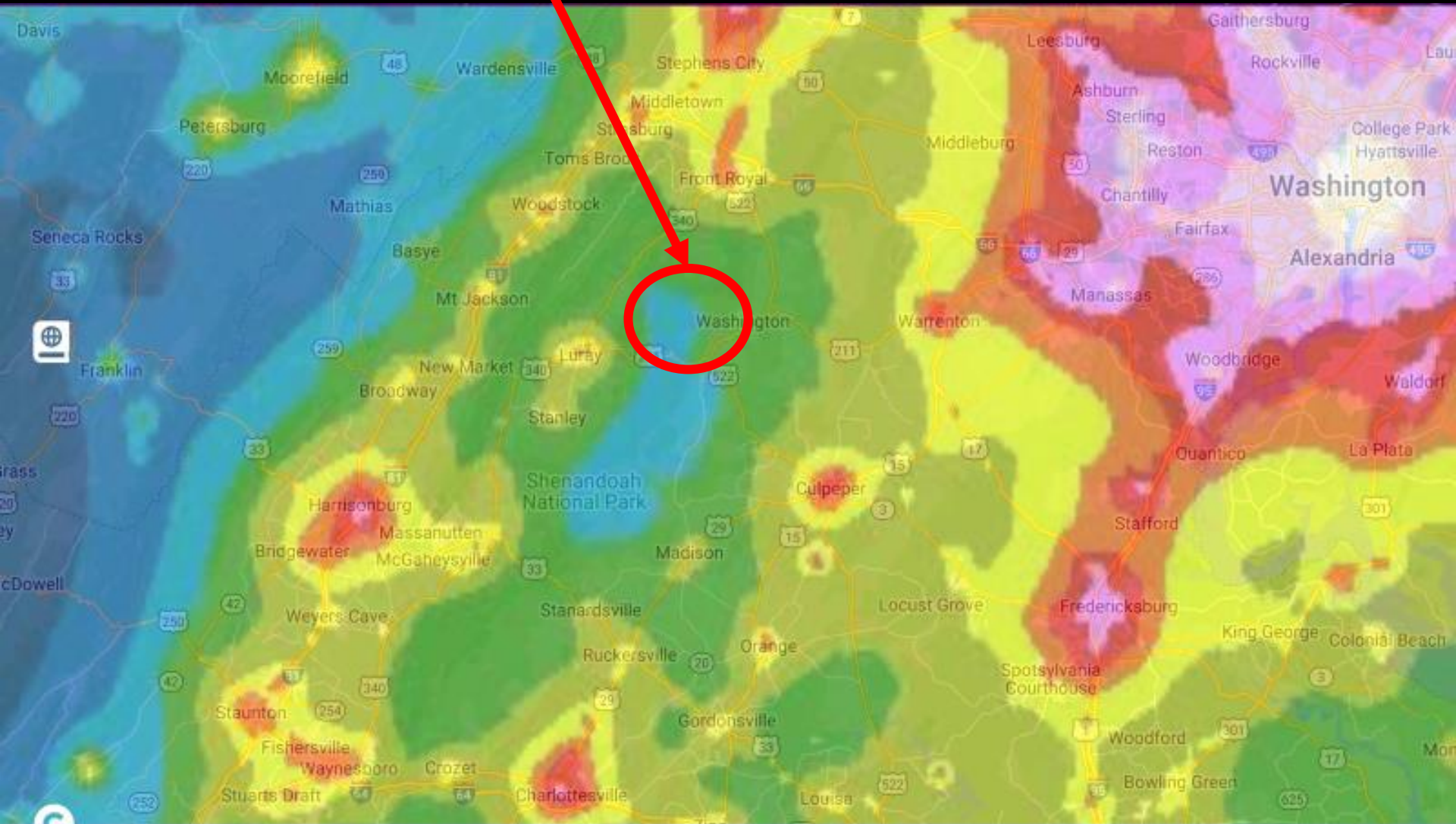


Light Pollution is Getting Worse!



10% per year

You are here...



...in an island of darkness

What is Light Pollution ?

- Light you don't need
- Light you don't want
- When you can't see the Milky Way
- Light that harms you, wildlife, birds, insects and plants
- All artificial light at night technically is light pollution

Why Light Pollution Matters

- Our health, safety and enjoyment
 - Appears linked to certain types of cancer, sleep disorders
 - May cause temporary loss of night vision
 - Prevents viewing of the starry skies



- Wildlife, fish and birds
 - Disturbs foraging and predation habits
 - Disturbs bird navigation during migration
 - Bird collisions with windows due to disorientation



Why Light Pollution Matters

- Insects

- Fireflies (lightning bugs) – harder to find mates
- Most insects attracted to outdoor lighting die by morning



- Plants

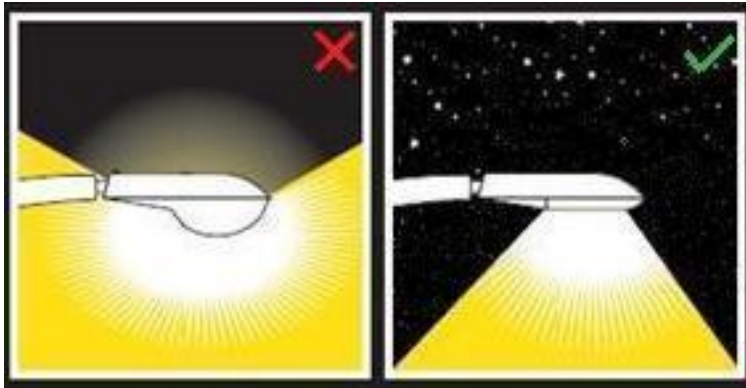
- Can affect seasonal rhythms of plants and trees



We Can Still Save Our Dark Skies

- By making sure our lighting is ...

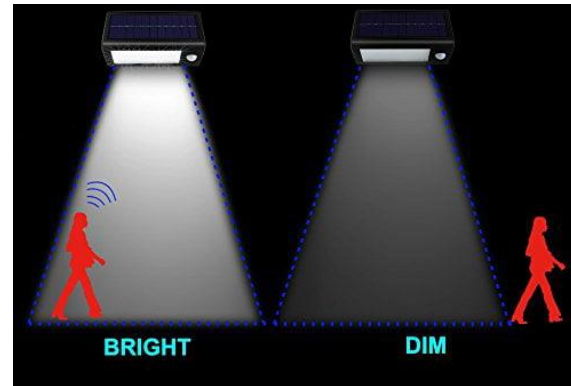
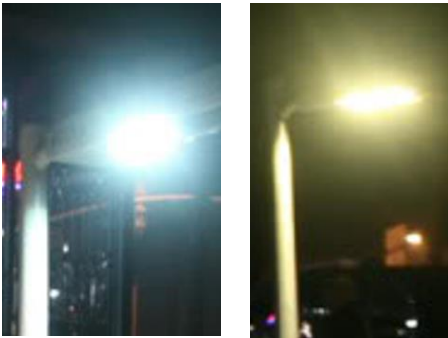
TARGETED



USEFUL



WARM COLOR



LOW
BRIGHTNESS

CONTROLLED



Get the Light Right



Before



After

What's Wrong Here ?

1



2



3





What Can You Do?



At Home

- Look at your outdoor lighting fixtures
 - Are all the lights necessary?
 - Does the light go where it's supposed to?
 - Are the lights too bright?
 - Can the lights be turned off when not needed?
- Is there a better way to provide the light you need?



What Can You Do?



In the Community

- Do a school project about light pollution
- Write a letter about light pollution to the newspaper or to local leaders
- Ask your parents to bring you to a dark sky event at the County Park