



International
Dark Sky Week
2026

**PROCLAMATION RECOGNIZING
INTERNATIONAL DARK SKY WEEK**

in [Town], Vermont

WHEREAS, the natural night sky is part of Vermont's environmental heritage, rural character, and quality of life; and

WHEREAS, the experience of a star-filled sky inspires wonder, supports learning in science and nature, and strengthens residents' and visitors' connection to the Vermont landscape; and

WHEREAS, excessive or poorly designed artificial light at night, commonly known as light pollution, diminishes the visibility of the stars, wastes energy and money, and can adversely affect human health, wildlife, and ecological systems; and

WHEREAS, Vermont's night-time environment supports many species that depend upon natural cycles of light and darkness, including bats, amphibians, fireflies, migratory birds, and moths and other pollinators; and

WHEREAS, protecting dark skies is consistent with Vermont's longstanding values of conservation, stewardship, community character, and responsible use of natural resources; and

WHEREAS, responsible outdoor lighting can improve safety and visibility while reducing glare, skyglow, and light trespass by using light only when needed, only where needed, no brighter than necessary, with minimized blue-rich emissions, and with fully shielded fixtures; and

WHEREAS, DarkSky Vermont is a Vermont-based organization working to educate the public, support municipalities and communities, promote responsible outdoor lighting, and preserve and protect Vermont’s night-time environment and heritage of dark skies; and

WHEREAS, International Dark Sky Week is recognized worldwide as an opportunity to raise awareness of the value of natural darkness and of practical solutions to light pollution;

NOW, THEREFORE, we, the Selectboard of the Town of [TOWN], Vermont, do hereby proclaim April 13–20, 2026, as **International Dark Sky Week** in the Town of [TOWN], and encourage all residents, businesses, institutions, and visitors to recognize the importance of dark skies and to support responsible outdoor lighting practices that protect Vermont’s environment, wildlife, scenic beauty, and ability to experience the wonder of the night sky.

Adopted by the Selectboard of the Town of [TOWN], Vermont, this __ day of _____, 2026.

[Name]

[Name]

[Name]