

6.7 Install Efficient Exterior Lighting

5 Points

10 Points

15 Points

20 Points

30 Points

Objective

Light your community with the most efficient bulbs available, either by getting your utility company to convert, or by converting your municipally-owned exterior lighting.

What to Do

If you collaborate with other municipalities or other stakeholders to implement this Action, please describe the partnership in the “partners” box of your submission. Please also consult this [guidance document](#) to help your municipality earn points for actions pursued in partnership. Regional collaboration and other forms of partnership are highly encouraged.

1. Plan and Convert Utility-Owned Street Lights:

- *If a utility company owns your community's street lights* initiate the conversion process with the utility. **(5 points)**

Submit: Documentation of utility-ownership of street lights and proof that your representative initiated the conversion process with the utility.

2. Plan and Convert Municipally-Owned Street Lights:

- *If you own your own street lights*, create a plan detailing what to light, when to light, and at what level. Perform a street light inventory and lighting needs assessment to implement your plan. Replace remaining lights with the most efficient, currently available bulbs (at a minimum, the approved bulbs utilized in the Eversource Energy/United Illuminating conversion process, currently 4000k LED bulbs). **(15 points)**

Submit: A copy of your streetlight plan, inventory, and needs assessment (including a description how the plan was utilized in the needs assessment), proof of street light replacement (for example, billing records, contracts, etc.). If your community has replaced your street lights during the past five years with or without the assistance of a streetlight plan, you will receive full credit.

3. Convert Town-Owned Decorative Street Lights and Exterior Park Lighting

- **Engage in the process of converting ALL exterior decorative lighting (excluding athletic facilities). If relevant, You SHOULD incorporate information related to your exterior lighting into your street light inventory and lighting needs assessment. (10 points)**

If you have a mix of utility-owned and municipality-owned street lights: You may complete one or both of the actions and receive full credit for each.

Submit: Documentation of utility-ownership of street lights and proof that your representative initiated the conversion process with the utility.

Credit for Past Action

For spring certification, count back from February 1st of the current year. For fall certification, count back from

August 1st of the current year. For further clarification on determining if your prior work is eligible to earn points, [click here](#).

- All exterior lighting must have been replaced within the past 5 years.

Potential Municipal and Community Collaborators

Staff from the planning, building, public works, and purchasing departments, energy commission, planning and zoning commission, and utility companies could be helpful in implementing this action.

Funding

For a complete listing of potential funding opportunities to assist with implementing Sustainable CT Actions, please visit the [Sustainable CT Grants Portal](#), which is searchable by Action. Please also visit the [Sustainable CT Resources for Certification](#) page for opportunities for technical assistance and other supports.

- [Urban Act Grant Program](#)
- [Municipal Grant Program \(MGP\)](#)
- [2020 Sustainable CT Community Match Fund](#)

Resources

Toolkits, Calculators, Guidance Documents

- Connecticut Conference of Municipalities, [Street Lighting Program](#)
- CT Department of Energy and Environmental Protection, ["Energy Efficiency"](#)
- US Department of Energy Office of Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy, ["Street Lighting and Blue Light"](#)
- US Department of Energy Office of Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy, ["Street Lighting and Blue Light FAQs"](#)
- Acadia Center, ["Community Energy Vision, Action Guide for Connecticut"](#)

Organizations and Relevant Programs

- [Energize CT](#)
- [Connecticut Energy Efficiency Fund](#)
- [American Council for an Energy Efficient Economy \(ACEEE\)](#)
- [Energy Star](#)
- [International Dark-Sky Association](#)

Why This Matters

Street lights are often a high energy cost to Connecticut's cities and towns. Currently, the utility companies are engaged in a multi-year effort to replace street lights under their ownership with LED bulbs at no cost to the town. However, municipalities select when to opt-in. If your community owns the street lights, you are not required to transition to LED bulbs, but you may select to replace your lights with more efficient bulbs to reduce your energy use and save money.

Benefits

LED bulbs use about 70% less energy than traditional bulbs. Relamping can save both energy and money, and presents a wonderful opportunity to educate your citizens on real dollar savings.

Saving energy improves public health by reducing greenhouse gases and criteria pollutants; and reduces reliance on finite natural resources.

If your community does not own your own street lights, you may have the opportunity to purchase. The Connecticut Conference of Municipalities offers a one-stop-shop program for purchasing and upgrading street lights, with its [Street Light Program](#).

CT Success Stories

- [2018 Bristol - Clear Documentation](#)
- [2018 Madison - Clear Documentation](#)
- [2018 Ridgefield - Clear Documentation](#)
- South Windsor: ["LED Street Lights"](#)