



## Install Efficient Exterior Lighting

Beginning in 2021, Sustainable CT has adopted a new numbering system for its actions. To translate between the new and prior numbering schemes, please visit our website to view a numbering translation guide.

### Action Updates

This action has been revised for the **current certification cycle**. A version of this action from the prior program year is [available for comparison](#). Edits are highlighted in yellow. (Last updated 2020)

### 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

*The more you do, the more points you earn.*

1. Create a streetlight inventory and perform a lighting needs assessment, detailing what to light, when to light, and at what level. Your inventory and assessment should include streetlights, exterior decorative lighting and park lighting. **(10 points)**

**Submit:** A copy of your streetlight inventory and lighting needs assessment.

**Timeframe for Credit:** Eligible for new action credit and rolling credit. This action falls under the action type "Websites, Maps, Inventories, Checklists, Assessments, Plans, Ordinances, Policies, Regulations and Resolutions" (see "Timeframe for Credit" Guidance Document for submission requirements).

2. Convert Municipally and Utility-Owned Street Lights:

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

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

**Timeframe for Credit:** Eligible for new action credit. This action falls under the action type "Implementation Projects" (see "Timeframe for Credit" Guidance Document for submission requirements).

- b. **If you own your own streetlights\***, replace lights with the most efficient, currently available bulbs (at a minimum, the approved bulbs utilized in the Eversource Energy/United Illuminating conversion process, currently 3000k LED bulbs). **(15 points)**

**Submit:** Proof of streetlight replacement, such as billing records or contracts.

**Timeframe for Credit:** Eligible for new action credit. This action falls under the action type "Implementation Projects" (see "Timeframe for Credit" Guidance Document for submission requirements).

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

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

- a. Convert ALL municipally owned exterior decorative lighting and exterior park lighting (excluding athletic facilities) to LEDs. **(10 points)**

**Submit:** Documentation of conversion of all exterior decorative lighting and park lighting (excluding athletic facilities).

**Timeframe for Credit:** Eligible for new action credit. This action falls under the action type "Implementation Projects" (see "Timeframe for Credit" Guidance Document for submission requirements).

#### Timeframe for Credit

Actions can either be "New" or considered for "Rolling Credit."

**New Action Credit.** Any action completed within the past three years (from January 1 of the year seeking certification) is eligible for potential certification points. If you are applying for recertification in your year of expiration, you may not claim *New Action Credit* for items that previously received credit.

**Rolling Credit.** For any action older than three years (from January 1 of the year seeking certification), you must demonstrate ongoing, currently relevant, and meaningful impact in your community to be considered for certification points. If you are applying for recertification in your year of expiration, you must apply for *Rolling Credit* for any item that previously received credit, even if it was completed within the past three years.

View the "Timeframe for Credit" Guidance Document for detailed submission requirements.

#### Engaging Partners

Sustainable CT encourages regional collaboration and other forms of partnership. For every action, please complete the "partners" box in your submission, indicating the name(s) of any municipalities and/or organizations you partnered with (if any) and a brief description of your municipality's role. For additional information, please see the Partners Guidance Document.

#### 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.

#### Why This Matters

Streetlights 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 streetlights under their ownership with LED bulbs at no cost to the town. However, municipalities select when to opt-in. If your community owns the streetlights, 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 streetlights, 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](#).

**For a complete list of funding opportunities, implementation resources, and success stories specific to this action, please visit the full Action write-up on the [Sustainable CT Actions webpage](#).**

