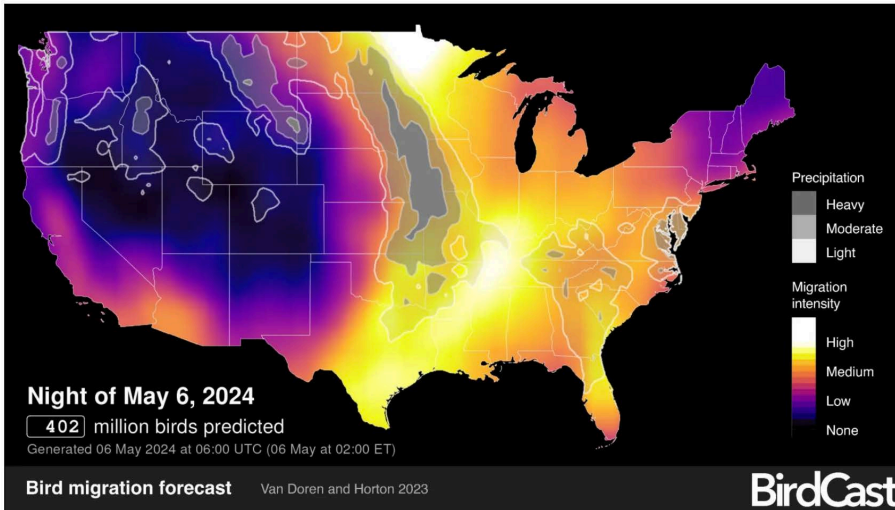


Adjust Your Lights for Safe Bird Flights

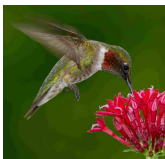


Plants and animals depend on natural light cycles to govern life-sustaining behaviors such as reproduction, nourishment, sleep, and protection from predators. Artificial light at night has deadly effects on many creatures, contributing to the decline of biodiversity worldwide.



Artificial Lights

Artificial lights can cause migrating birds to wander off course towards dangerous nighttime landscapes and cities. Millions of birds die colliding with needlessly illuminated buildings every year.



Migration Timeline

Birds migrate annually from March 15 - June 15, and from August 15 - November 15. During a peak migration period in early May, more than a billion birds may be in the air on a single night. More than 250 bird species migrate through Chicago.



Human Health and Wildlife

We are just starting to understand the devastating effects of artificial light on habitat. Reducing artificial light year-round will benefit wildlife, human health, and energy savings.

Protect wildlife through sensitive lighting choices.

- Take action, especially in **early May**, during peak migration season.
- **Turn off exterior lighting and interior lighting, or draw blinds**, each evening after 11 p.m. until full daylight.
- **Use only fully-shielded fixtures for all outdoor lighting**, so lights shine down, not up.
- **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. For security lighting, use motion sensors.
- **Turn off office and home lights** 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 wildlife.



Learn more about light pollution and wildlife habitat at Darksky.org.

International Dark Sky Week is April 21 - 28

gogreenwilmette.org