

BRIGHT NIGHTS

As artificial light increases in volume and geographical coverage around the world, a variety of animal species are suffering ill effects. Some of these consequences are immediate and obvious—for example, a moth that flies into a streetlamp may die on impact. But there are also less visible, possibly more damaging effects, such as changes to predator-prey and plant-pollinator relationships that can reverberate through ecosystems.

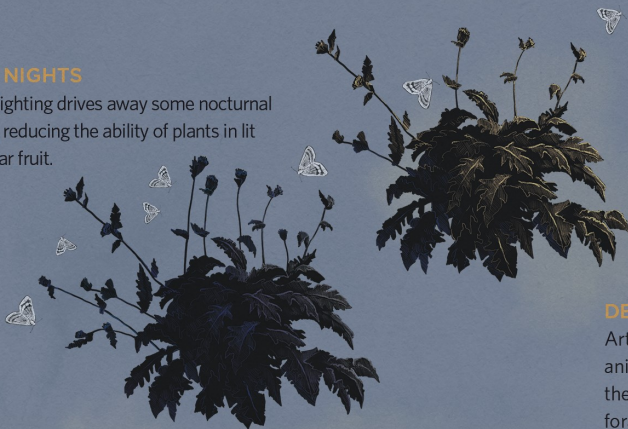


FATAL ATTRACTION

Illuminated skyscrapers and spotlights can lure migrating birds. Animals may become disoriented and end up in deadly collisions or perish from exhaustion.

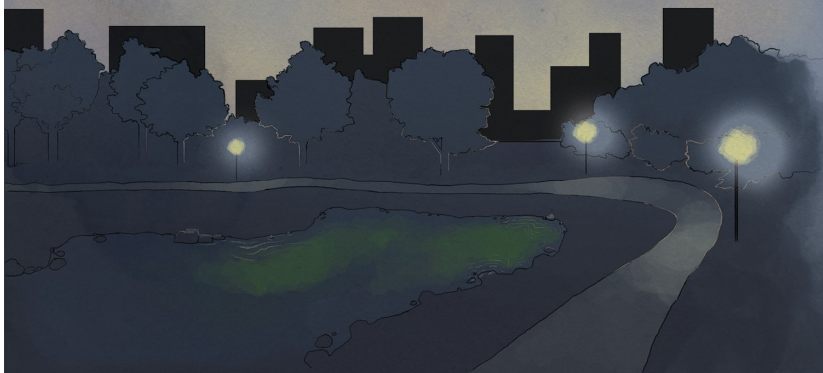
LONELY NIGHTS

Nighttime lighting drives away some nocturnal pollinators, reducing the ability of plants in lit areas to bear fruit.



SHIFTING COMMUNITIES

Artificial illumination at night can increase the proportion of microorganisms in freshwater sediments that are able to photosynthesize under low light levels.



DINING BY STREETLIGHT

Streetlamps, floodlights, and other luminous objects attract a wide range of insects at night. Predators home in on light-loving swarms to take advantage of the congregated prey.

DESYNCHRONIZED

Artificially lit nights can perturb an animal's circadian rhythms, altering the timing of activities, such as sleep, foraging, mating, and migration, that are tightly controlled by the body's internal clocks.



1	Fatal attraction	Illuminated skyscrapers and spotlights can lure migrating birds. Animals may become disoriented and end up in deadly collisions or perish from exhaustion.
2	Dining by streetlight	Streetlamps, floodlights, and other luminous objects attract a wide range of insects at night. Predators home in on light-loving swarms to take advantage of the congregated prey.
3	Lonely nights	Nighttime lighting drives away some nocturnal pollinators, reducing the ability of plants in lit areas to bear fruit.
4	Shifting communities	Artificial illumination at night can increase the proportion of microorganisms in freshwater sediments that are able to photosynthesize under low light levels.
5	Desynchronized	Artificially lit nights can perturb an animal's circadian rhythms, altering the timing of activities, such as sleep, foraging, mating, and migration, that are tightly controlled by the body's internal clocks.

Infographic from: <https://www.the-scientist.com/infographics/infographic--light-pollution-64855>