

Lights Out, Texas!

A statewide initiative to protect migratory birds



Black-and-white Warbler

Lights Out, Texas!



Migration is
integral to the
avian lifecycle





1 out of 3 birds migrating through the U.S. will pass through **Texas**

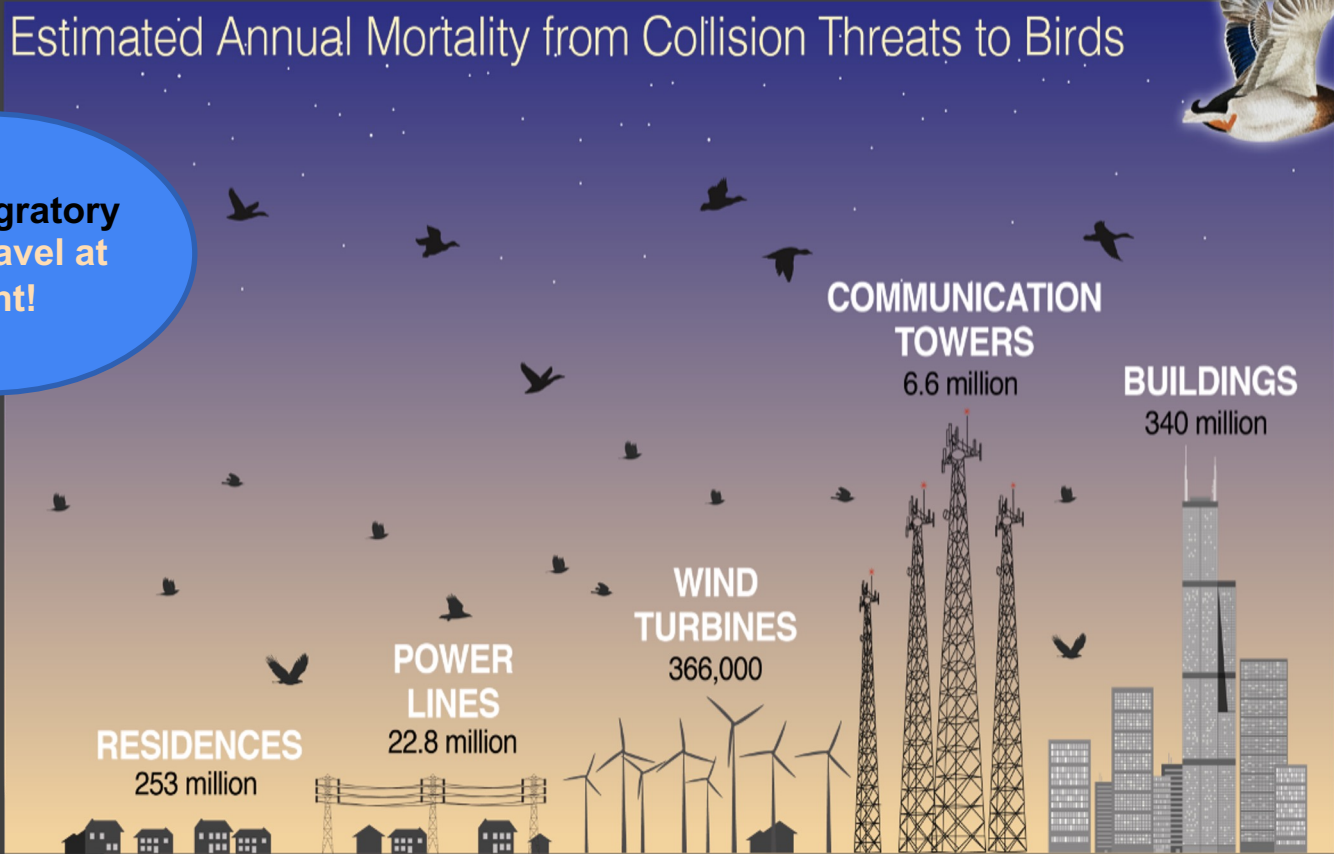


Indigo Bunting

DANGEROUS SKIES:

Estimated Annual Mortality from Collision Threats to Birds

Most migratory birds travel at night!



MIGRATORY
CRUISING ALTITUDE

WATERFOWL
200–4,000 ft



SONGBIRDS
500–2,500 ft

In 2017, this commercial building in Galveston **killed near 400 birds** in a single night



Our opportunity to
go, Lights Out,
Texas!

Lights Out, Texas!

11 PM - 6 AM

EACH LIGHT TURNED OUT HELPS SAVE MIGRATING BIRDS



Painted Bunting

Dangerous Skies

Texas has **#2** and **#3** of the top 20 US cities for exposing migrating birds to hazards created by **light pollution**



Why are birds important?

Birds Keep our Ecosystems
Running Smoothly

Birds Help us Know if the
Environment is Healthy

Birds Make Money

Birds Bring us Joy and Beauty

Birds Need our Help



How You Can Help Lights Out, Texas!

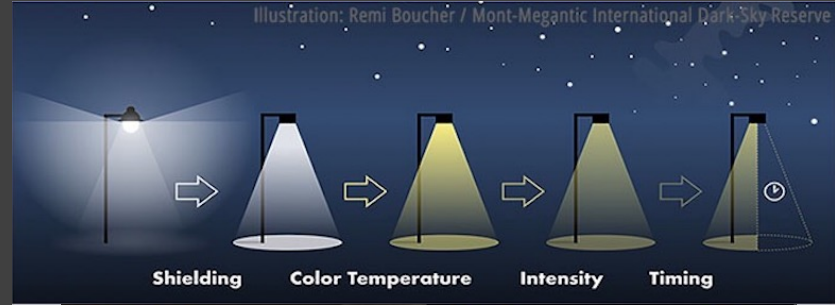


Mourning Warbler

Everyone Can

Follow IDA's Five Principles for Community Outdoor Lighting

- (1) **Useful:** Install lighting only when and where its needed
- (2) **Targeted:** Shield your lights to shine down
- (3) **Low Light Levels:** Should be no brighter than necessary
- (4) **Controlled:** Use timers, dimmers, motion sensors
- (5) **Appropriate Color:** Use warm lights



Spring
Migration Season

March 1--June 15

Everyone Can

- Share on Social Media
- Print a Yard Sign
- Reach out to the Mayor's Office asking for a Resolution to go Lights Out!

Spring Migration Season
March 1--June 15



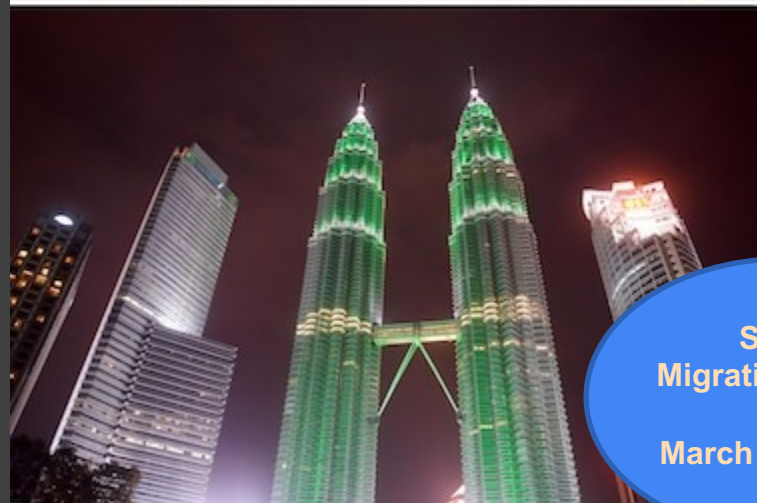
#LightsOutTexas



Buildings

Talk with Building Operator or Manager to:

- Extinguish or dim decorative lighting
- Avoid flood lights
- Utilize desk lamps at night
- Turn off lights in building when unoccupied
- Put lights on a motion sensor
- Commit to Lights Out, Texas!



Spring
Migration Season

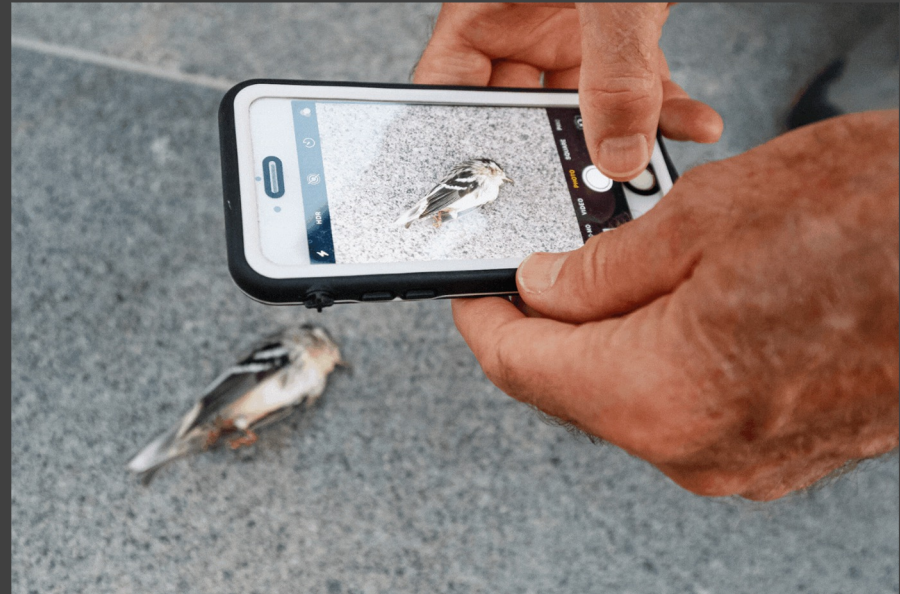
March 1--June 15

Volunteer to Gather Data

Collected birds are sent to the Biodiversity Research and Teaching Collections in the Department of Ecology and Conservation Biology at Texas A&M University.

Volunteer in Your City:

- Austin: Travis Audubon
- Dallas: Texas Conservation Alliance
- Houston: Houston Audubon
- San Antonio: Bexar Audubon Society
- West Texas: Big Bend Conservation Alliance & University of Texas at El Paso



Research Shows It's Effective

Turning off or dimming internal and external lights during migration is an effective intervention, whether at low or high-rises:

- A 2021 peer-reviewed paper has modeled collisions at a building showing that reducing lighting -- resulting in a **~60% reduction in collision mortality** from observed totals.
- Turning off individual lights, even in an otherwise brightly lit area, is likely to make a meaningful difference in decreasing bird mortality

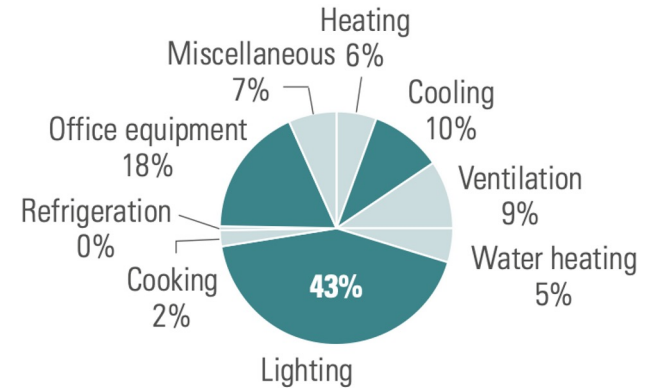


It's Cost Effective

- **\$1.34 per square foot on electricity** and 18 cents per square foot on natural gas
- In a typical office building, lighting, heating, and cooling represent between 54% and 71% of total use
- Energy represents about 19% of total expenditures for the typical office building



Energy consumption in office buildings by end use:



tx.audubon.org/urbanconservation/lights-out-texas

Audubon » Central Flyway

Audubon Texas

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Women in Conservation

Conservation Leaders
Program for Young Women

Urban Conservation

Bird City Texas

Lights Out Texas

https://tx.audubon.org/conservation/bird-friendly-communities

Founding & Coordinating Partners

Thank you to everyone who helped make this campaign possible and for the many partners who continue the work!



Lets go **Lights Out, Texas**
so we can **Turn on the Night**

Full suite of resources on tx.audubon.org

Questions?

Reach out to chloe.crumley@audubon.org

