

FRIENDS OF THE EDGEWOOD PRESERVE

Friends of the Edgewood-Oak Brush Plains Preserve, Inc. is an all-volunteer, non-profit organization dedicated to protecting, the natural beauty and improving the conditions of the Edgewood-Oak Brush Plains Nature Preserve.

Denis Byrne
President & Founder
Paul Tomko
Vice-President
Sid Cherry
Treasurer
Patricia Burkhart
Secretary
Mary Beth Tomko
Board Member

June 4, 2007

RE: New York State Legislation A7438 / S4364

Friends of the Edgewood Preserve endorses and supports The Healthy, Safe and Energy Efficient Outdoor Lighting Act.

This important legislation will reduce the adverse effects of poorly designed and implemented nighttime lighting.

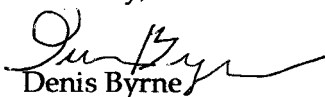
The detrimental effects of irresponsible lighting are everywhere – not just in urban areas, but here on Long Island as well. In fact, nighttime lighting that shines indiscriminately across their habitats harms the flora and fauna all across New York State, including those in the fragile and rare remnant ecosystem of the Edgewood-Oak Brush Plains Preserve.

Bad lighting negatively impacts the environment and the quality of life of humans as well. Bad lighting is an obvious waste of energy, resources and dollars. Glare hampers visibility, light trespass infringes on the property rights of neighbors and light sent unnecessarily upwards causes sky glow – which deprives everyone, especially children, the inspiration of the beautiful, star-studded nighttime sky. Awe and wonder are in short supply these days – has anyone stopped to wonder why?? Wasted electricity from poor lighting leads to air, water and ground pollution that could be avoided with the proper lighting.

This legislation will benefit not just you and me. Rather, it is a commitment to our children and grandchildren that we will do all we can to preserve and protect the beauty and inspiration of the dark night sky and to protect that which should matter most to us: the health and safety of those very same children and the flora and fauna – all those who cannot speak for themselves and who we have a duty to protect – in this, our great state of New York.

This legislation merits strong support and we thank Senator Marcellino and Assemblywoman Rosenthal for their leadership on this very important issue.

Sincerely,



Denis Byrne
cc: Susan Harder, Dark Sky Society

P.O. Box 162, Deer Park, NY 11729



631-242-7402



info@friendsofthewood.com