



Landscape Lighting Guide

www.Letitglowillumination.com

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Rory Sheridan



Introduction

Welcome to your guide to Landscape Lighting. This guide will walk you step-by-step through the planning and installation process.

Landscape Lighting design and installation can be a complex process. Many features of the project such as natural light, landscaping, building architecture, electricity source and space use need to be considered.



Photo courtesy of Hunter Industries Incorporated

If you have questions or would like a **FREE** design consultation, please contact Let It Glow Illumination at 479 755 3643

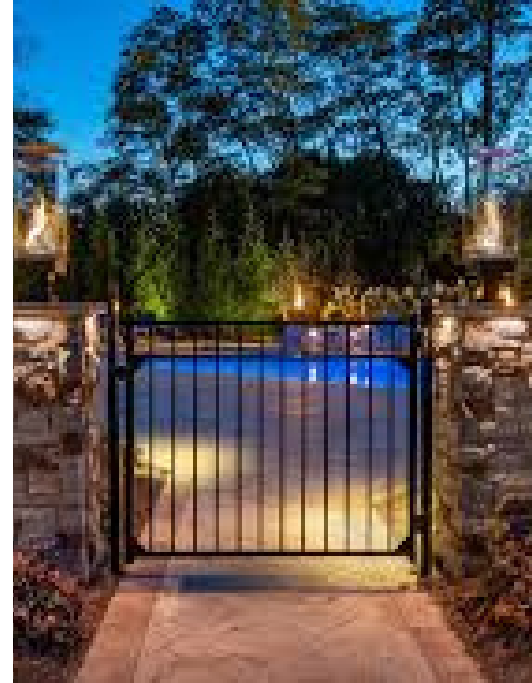
Warmly,

Rory Sheridan

Planning

Security Lighting

Enhance the safety and security of your outdoor space with cutting-edge security lighting solutions. Lighting fixtures can provide a sense of serenity by illuminating pathways, entry points, and vulnerable areas, ensuring a well-lit environment that deters unwanted intrusions.



Landscape Lighting

Transform your outdoor space into a mesmerizing spectacle with landscape lighting. Thoughtfully crafted fixtures are designed to accentuate the beauty of your home and garden, creating a harmonious balance between aesthetics and functionality.



Photo courtesy of Hunter Industries Incorporated

Accent Lighting

Highlight architectural features, showcase lush greenery, and add a touch of sophistication to your landscape with accent lighting. Whether it's a gentle wash of light on a garden sculpture or the highlighting of a stunning tree, accent lighting solutions bring attention to the exquisite details that make your outdoor environment uniquely yours.



Photo courtesy of Hunter Industries Incorporated

Navigational Lighting

Navigate your outdoor space with ease and grace using navigational lighting solutions. Strategically positioned fixtures can guide your way along pathways, walkways, and key points in your landscape, ensuring safety and enhancing the visual appeal of your surroundings.



Photo courtesy of Hunter Industries Incorporated

Ambient Lighting

Designed to create a warm and inviting atmosphere, ambient lighting bathes your outdoor space in a subtle glow. From softly lit seating areas to enchanting garden corners, ambient lighting transforms your landscape into a haven of relaxation.

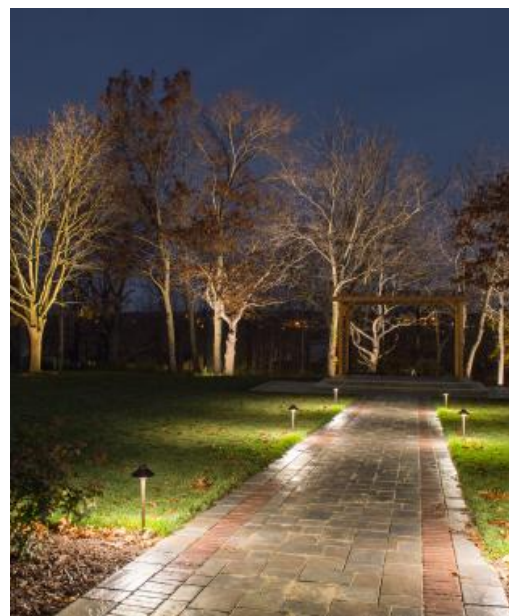


Photo courtesy of Hunter Industries Incorporated

Fixture Options

After deciding which areas of your property require lighting, the next step is to decide which type of fixtures will need to be installed.

LED v Solar

When it comes to illuminating your outdoor space, deciding between LED and solar lights is a crucial consideration. LED lights, known for their energy efficiency and longevity (20 years), provide a reliable and bright illumination. LEDs also come in different color temperatures, outputs and beam spreads, making them a versatile option.

On the other hand, solar lights have a much shorter lifespan and can shut off during cloudy or stormy days. While LED lights ensure consistent performance, solar lights are a green alternative, requiring no electricity. Your choice ultimately depends on your preferences, environmental values, and the specific lighting needs of your Northwest Arkansas outdoor haven.



Photo courtesy of Hunter Industries Incorporated



Photo courtesy of Hunter Industries Incorporated

Path Lights

These fixtures typically feature a low-profile design with diffusers to cast a soft, even light across the ground. Installed at ground level along walkways, garden borders, or near key features, path lights create a welcoming and well-lit journey after sunset.



Photo courtesy of Hunter Industries Incorporated

Uplights

Uplights operate by casting a focused beam of light upward, accentuating architectural elements, trees, or other key features. Installed at ground level, these fixtures utilize shields to control light direction, ensuring a dramatic and visually striking effect.



Photo courtesy of Hunter Industries Incorporated

Moon lights

Installed high in trees or on elevated structures, these fixtures cast a gentle illumination downward, creating a captivating moonlit effect across your outdoor space.



Wall wash lights

Wall wash lights use wide-angle beams of light to elegantly wash vertical surfaces with a gentle, even glow. These fixtures are strategically placed at ground level, aiming light upwards to create a visually striking effect along walls or facades.



Well lights

Well lights are discreet fixtures designed to nestle seamlessly into your deck or outdoor flooring, providing subtle and integrated illumination. These fixtures are typically installed flush with the surface, emitting a downward glow that accentuates the deck's contours and architectural elements.

Photo courtesy of Hunter Industries Incorporated



Bistro Lights

These lights are strung along a designated area, creating an enchanting and festive atmosphere. Bistro lights are ideal for installation across patios, decks, or outdoor seating areas.

Budget

Landscape lighting costs can vary hugely depending on the quality and quantity of fixtures used.

DIY



Low Upfront Cost



Consumer Grade Fixtures



Time Consuming Installation



Cost \$300 - \$500+

DIY KITS



Low Upfront Cost



Consumer Grade Fixtures



Cost \$600 - \$1500 +

Professional Install



Saves Money Over Time



Professional Grade Fixtures



Custom Design



Expert Placement



Performance/Durability



Cost \$300/fixture

PRO TIP

Anticipate plant and tree growth by planning for future adjustments. Space fixtures strategically to accommodate potential expansion

Design

Once the focus areas and budget have been established, the next step of the process is to walk through the property and create a design map.

Keep in mind the functionality of the spaces and what features are to be highlighted. **Competing light**, **shadows** and **layers** must also be accounted for in the design.

Competing Light - other sources of light from street lights, security systems etc can compete with landscape lights. The color and warmth of competing lights should be factored into the design.

Shadows - Shadows and silhouettes of landscaping plants can create beautiful features to a lighting installation. Unwanted shadows and dark spots can be avoided with proper placement of fixtures.

Layers - Layering lights can create a smooth, cohesive finished look. For example, path lighting can be layered onto architectural down-lights on the front entrance to avoid drastic changes in lighting brightness and depth.



Photo courtesy of Hunter Industries Incorporated

Most homes in Northwest Arkansas will require a minimum of 10 landscape lights to illuminate the front entrance area of the home.

Creating a map of the property will help to determine how many lights are needed, and how much connecting wire is required. Keep in mind that each Zone area will require different light fixtures, such as path lights in Zone 1, up-lights and wall wash lights in Zone 2 and moon lights in Zone 3.



PRO TIP

Calculate the appropriate spacing for path lights. Aim for fixtures to be about 6 to 8 feet apart for even illumination.

Hiring a Professional Company

We suggest hiring a professional landscape lighting contractor to design and install your project.

- A professional service will focus on designing an aesthetically functional space.
- The professional will have specific fixtures needed for each zone.
- The professional has expert technical knowledge of fixture placement.
- A professional service will offer maintenance plans to keep the system in top performance.
- Colored lights, timers, dimming, zoning etc. are all customizable features of a professional installation.
- Professional installation uses the highest quality fixtures with optimum reliability and performance.

PRO TIP

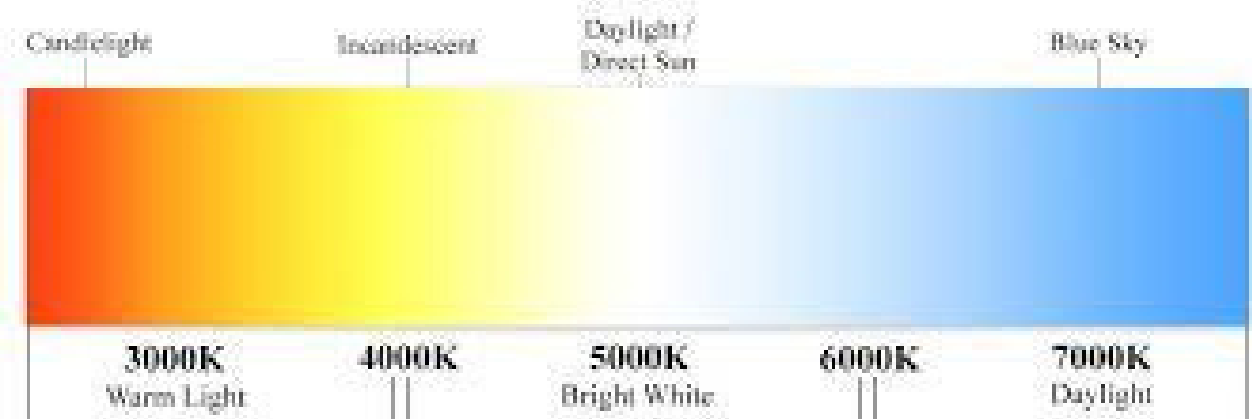
Prioritize safety with step lighting. Install fixtures on or near steps to ensure visibility and prevent accidents

Output Optimization

Color Temperature - Kelvin Scale

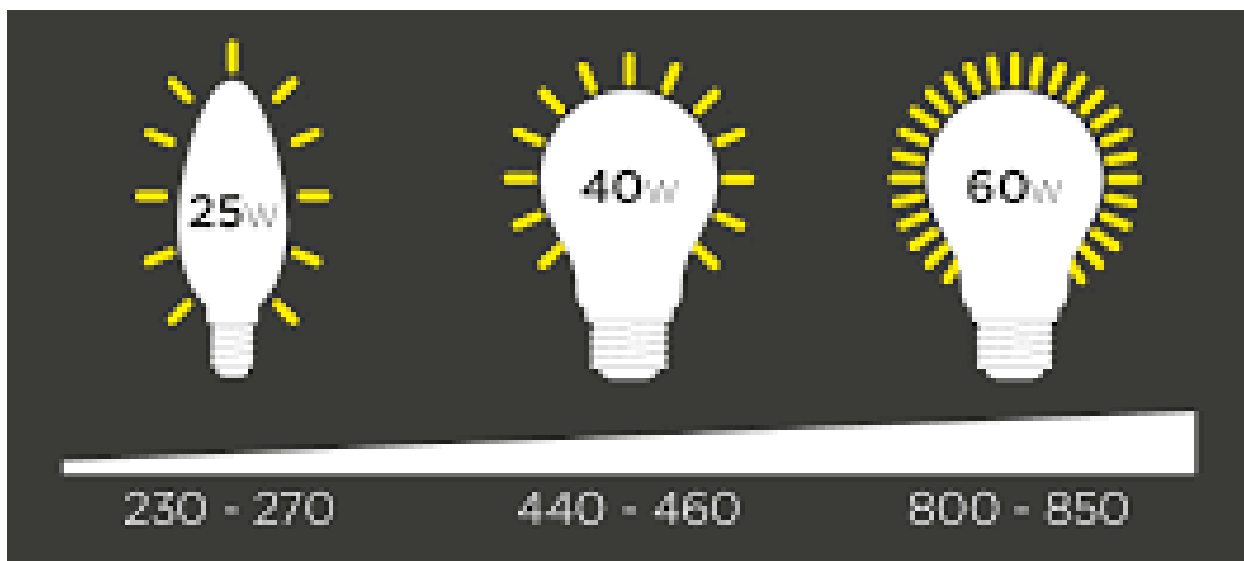
When designing landscape lighting, Kelvin temperature plays a pivotal role in achieving the desired ambiance. Kelvin (K) represents the color temperature of light, influencing the mood and aesthetics of outdoor spaces. Lower Kelvin temperatures, around 2700K, produce warm, amber tones that evoke a cozy and intimate atmosphere. In contrast, higher Kelvin temperatures, such as 4000K, emit cooler, bluish hues, creating a more vibrant and contemporary look. Striking the right balance is crucial – warmer tones are often preferred for residential areas, providing a comfortable and inviting feel, while cooler temperatures may be suitable for highlighting architectural features or modern landscaping.

Color Temperature Scale



Bulb Lumen Output

Lumen, the metric for brightness, intricately defines the visibility and impact of outdoor lighting. For task-oriented areas like pathways, opting for fixtures with higher lumen outputs, around 200-300 lumens, ensures clear visibility and safety. Meanwhile, in garden spaces or ambient zones, fixtures with softer and lower lumen outputs, ranging from 50-150 lumens, contribute to a serene and relaxed atmosphere.



Beam Spread

Beam spread, measured in degrees, determines the coverage and focus of light emitted by fixtures. For pathways and targeted areas, fixtures with a narrower beam spread of around 20-40 degrees ensure precise illumination, enhancing safety and visibility. In contrast, broader beam spreads, ranging from 60-120 degrees, are ideal for accentuating larger expanses, such as garden beds or expansive outdoor features.

Installation

Transformers

Depending on the number of lights to be installed, different sized transformers will need to be purchased. The total wattage for all fixtures needs to be 80% or less of the transformer's capacity.

Connections

Wire connects are the most common failure point of landscape lighting installations. Faulty connections allow moisture to corrode the exposed wires and affect the electrical current.

Voltage

Voltage is lost through resistance as current flows through wire. Proper wire size and load current will depend on the length of wire used in the install. Improper design will result in faulty fixtures and some fixtures not illuminating.

Maintenance

Ensure Lifetime Enjoyment

Maintaining your landscape lighting ensures longevity and continued visual appeal. Regularly inspect fixtures for dirt, debris, or signs of wear, cleaning lenses and surfaces as needed.

Trim vegetation that may obstruct light distribution and adjust fixtures to accommodate changes in plant growth. Periodically check wiring and connections for any signs of damage and replace bulbs promptly to maintain consistent illumination.

Consider a yearly professional inspection to address any potential issues and optimize the performance of your landscape lighting, ensuring it remains a captivating feature of your outdoor space for years to come.



Photo courtesy of Hunter Industries Incorporated

Bringing your dream to life

Does your project require a professional?

Now that you've completed the guide to landscape lighting installation, you may be asking, 'What's next?'

Working with a professional company can save the hassle of researching designs and the physical labor of installations.

Some things to consider when choosing a professional:

- Is landscape lighting their specialty and focus?
- What fixtures do they offer?
- What warranty is included?
- How long will the project take to complete?
- Can I see previous work?
- Do they provide maintenance?
- Are they insured?



Photo courtesy of Hunter Industries Incorporated

Your local trusted provider

Trust Let It Glow Illumination

Landscape lighting can be a substantial investment in your home and living areas.

Let It Glow Illumination can assist in creating the ultimate lighting experience for your family and guests.

- We provide a FREE in-person design consultation.
- We will create a custom design that fits your dream and budget.
- We provide fast, professional installation.
- We offer financing and full warranty on our fixtures.



Photo courtesy of Hunter Industries Incorporated