



## City of Asheville LED Street Light Program



LED street lights are replacing traditional bulbs in the City of Asheville. The final phase of installation will be complete in spring of 2013, with expected annual savings of over \$450,000.

The City of Asheville is in the [third and final phase of the streetlight upgrade program](#) in which traditional bulbs will be upgraded to LED fixtures. When complete in June 2013 all roads in city limits except Department of Transportation roads will be upgraded to LED streetlights.

Over the last two years [the City has upgraded 3,400 street lights](#) to the energy efficiency LED technology and will complete the city wide program in June 2013 with a total of 7,400 fixtures. Once completed all three phases are expected to save \$450,000 annually and 1,294 tons of avoided carbon, which is equal to the emissions from burning 7 rail cars of coal.

This lighting upgrade will result in reducing City of Asheville overall municipal carbon footprint by roughly 8%, a tremendous impact for one capital improvement project.

The energy savings from the street lights are reinvested into additional efficiency improvements and sustainability programs through the [Green Capital Improvement Program](#). The City of Asheville is the first in the nation to implement this innovative financial model, to ensure the city has adequate resources to continue carbon reduction efforts in lean fiscal years.

The lights typically last over 100,000 hours, or 20+ years, and feature a “plug and play” electrical system, which lowers maintenance costs. The LED lamp is also now owned by the City, rather than leased from the utility company, which also saves money.

These lighting upgrades build further upon the successful lighting ordinance passed in 2008 which ensures all municipal streetlights adhere to “Dark Sky” standards. The lights have a 0 Backlight, Uplight and Glare “BUG” rating, meaning there is no light trespass or sky glow.

[LED's Make Dollars and Sense Case Study](#)  
[Frequently Asked Questions for Residents](#)

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