



TEXAN  NATURE™

BE BIG. BE BOLD.
BE TEXAN BY NATURE.

2018 CONSERVATION WRANGLER

McDonald Observatory's Dark Skies Initiative

IN THE HEART OF THE DAVIS MOUNTAINS OF WEST TEXAS, located atop Mount Locke and Mount Fowlkes and under some of the darkest night skies in the continental United States, sits the 500-acre world renowned University of Texas' McDonald Observatory. The Observatory's mission is to inform, educate, and inspire through their public programs, and support the teaching of the science and hobby of astronomy. The second largest employer in Jeff Davis County, the Observatory hosts more than 100,000 visitors each year. Through a campaign of education and awareness, the Observatory's Dark Skies Initiative seeks to protect the beautiful, milky-way filled night skies in this region for ongoing astronomical research and education.

DARK SKIES COMPLIANT LIGHTING BENEFITS:

- Light pollution reduction
- Glare reduction that increases visibility and worker safety on oil and gas operations
- Decreased electricity usage: ~80% reduction in power consumption

IMPLEMENTING DARK SKIES COMPLIANT LIGHTING ON YOUR OPERATIONS?

Texan by Nature wants to acknowledge your conservation efforts to keep Texas' skies dark for generations to come. Our **Texan by Nature Certification Program** provides Texas employers, organizations, and individuals with recognition of meaningful conservation efforts involving and benefitting people, prosperity, and natural resources. Texan by Nature highlights these efforts online and through media for all Texans to celebrate and emulate.

Let us celebrate your efforts and tell your story.

APPLY FOR TxN CERTIFICATION TODAY at texanbynature.org.

ABOUT TEXAN BY NATURE

WHO WE ARE

In 2011 former First Lady Laura Bush founded Texan by Nature to unite business and conservation leaders who believe our state's prosperity is dependent on the conservation of our natural resources.

WHAT WE DO

We bring business and conservation together. We amplify projects and activate new investment in conservation which returns real benefits for people, prosperity and natural resources. We achieve our goals through our Texan by Nature Certification program, Conservation Wrangler program, and Symposia series.

HOW WE DO IT

We build upon the already impressive efforts that make Texas a leader in natural resource conservation. Texan by Nature connects the brightest minds and projects with the strongest resources and funding to make the biggest impact for Texans, our economy, and our natural world.



TXN PROJECT CERTIFICATION GUIDELINES FOR DARK SKIES COMPLIANT LIGHTING IMPLEMENTATION ON OIL AND GAS OPERATIONS

- Designate a dark skies compliant lighting point of contact/liaison that is educated, trained, and responsible for the compliance of the site.
- Review the “**Recommended Lighting Practices**” **guide and video** before implementation on your site.
- Before purchasing dark skies compliant lighting for your site please ensure that it is actually compliant—some lighting is marketed as dark skies compliant when it is in fact not. We can provide you with resources for recommended fixtures. Contact the McDonald Observatory for review and approval of the fixtures/bulbs you are planning to buy at info@mcdonalobservatory.org or at 432-426-3640.
- Updates when they are made
- Summary and/or documentation of management strategies being put in place to ensure at least 90% of existing lighting is being modified to dark skies compliant lighting and that future lighting will be dark skies compliant.

(Disclaimer: The Observatory can review and approve makes/models of fixtures/bulbs to confirm that they are dark skies compliant but they do not approve lighting plans).

Texan by Nature asks that the dark skies point of contact submit:

- Before photos of the site.
- After photos of dark skies compliant lighting fixtures once they are implemented on the site.
- Report on:
 - # of existing fixtures modified
 - # of new fixtures/bulbs purchased—please provide fixture/bulb model/temperature

Texan by Nature will coordinate a meeting for the McDonald Observatory to review the site once the dark skies compliant lighting has been implemented, to ensure that the lighting has been implemented properly and suggest any modifications to meet standards.

Texan by Nature recommends that the dark skies contact send out an educational email to all employees on the site letting them know why the lighting has been changed and the benefits of doing so (Texan by Nature can provide an email template for your use).

Texan by Nature recommends that all documentation associated with lighting practices reflects adherence to the “Recommended Lighting Practices”.

If desired, the McDonald Observatory can hold educational and/or training workshops on dark skies compliant lighting and the “Recommended Lighting Practices.”

If you have any questions or would like to learn more, please contact Texan by Nature at programs@texanbynature.org 512-284-7482.