

Dark Sky Week Proclamation

WHEREAS, the aesthetic beauty and wonder of a natural night sky is a shared heritage of all humankind, and

WHEREAS, light pollution has scientifically established economic and environmental consequences, which result in significant impacts on the ecology and human health of all communities, amounting to roughly \$3 billion per year of wasted energy in the United States and contributes to diminished energy security; and

WHEREAS, 80 percent of the world's population, including residents in Berthoud, live under a dome of light pollution—excessive artificial lighting at night that disrupts natural darkness—and may never experience the visual wonder or ecological and health benefits of living under a dark sky; and

WHEREAS, Berthoud continues to see significant growth, and it is vital to showcase that communities can grow while still allowing residents to enjoy the night sky without having to leave the place they call home; and

WHEREAS, visitors can enjoy small, locally owned shops and restaurants after enjoying outdoor opportunities near Berthoud, which will allow residents and visitors to stay in Berthoud for longer than an afternoon by experiencing something they can't in the larger cities: nature at night; and

WHEREAS, DarkSky International, headquartered in the United States, is the globally recognized authority on light pollution and has created International Dark Sky Week to raise awareness of light pollution and provide free education, resources, and solutions to the public to encourage the protection of and enjoyment of dark skies and responsible outdoor lighting.

Now, Therefore, I, William Karspeck, Mayor of Berthoud, do hereby declare April 2-8, 2024, as

INTERNATIONAL DARK SKY WEEK

In the Town of Berthoud, I Mayor William Karspeck, and the Town of Berthoud Board of Trustees ask each resident to join us, not only in observing and pondering upon this important week, but also in raising awareness and support for protecting our precious dark sky resources.

William Karspeck, Mayor

03/26/2024
Date

