



DRIPPING SPRINGS
Texas

**PROCLAMATION
OF THE CITY OF DRIPPING SPRINGS
PROCLAIMING AUGUST – OCTOBER 2021 AND
MARCH – MAY 2022 AS**

“Lights Out Migratory Months”

WHEREAS, the Audubon National Lights Out Program was established in 1999 in Chicago, Illinois was organized to protect birds from light pollution; and

WHEREAS, the Lights Out Program encourages businesses and community members to turn off exterior lights within a designated timeframe during migratory months to reduce light pollution providing safe and natural migration routes for birds; and

WHEREAS, 1 of every 3 birds migrating through the U.S. in spring passes through Texas, meaning approximately one billion birds travel through the state annually; and

WHEREAS, studies show birds support local economies in Texas through Nature Tourism, which is dominated by birding; and

WHEREAS, birds are essential to our planet’s ecology, provide ecosystem services, act as benchmarks for environmental health, increase livability, and connect people of all ages and abilities to the natural world; and

WHEREAS, the Lights Out Program supports other city initiatives such as the International Dark Sky Community designation, Jr. Birding Club, and Bird City designation that will help us qualify for grants to support Nature Tourism in Dripping Springs benefiting our local economy; and

WHEREAS, the Dripping Springs Lights Out Program will offer a pledge to be signed by community members, business owners, and government officials to participate by turning off their lights during the migration periods bi-annually; and

WHEREAS, the Lights Out Program, once proclaimed, will be listed as an official partner program on the Audubon website alongside other cities offering the program.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT PROCLAIMED by the City Council of Dripping Springs, Texas:

1. August through October 2021 and March through May 2022 shall hereafter be known as “Lights Out Migratory Months” in Dripping Springs, Hays County, Texas.
2. Community members, business owners, and government officials are encouraged to sign the pledge stating they will extinguish exterior lights during the specified time frame during Lights Out migratory months.

Bill Foulds, Jr., Mayor