



**PROCLAMATION
OF THE CITY OF DRIPPING SPRINGS
PROCLAIMING AUGUST – OCTOBER 2020 AND
MARCH – MAY 2021 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, natural migration routes for birds; and
- WHEREAS,** Audubon is a nonprofit organization partnering with cities nationwide to protect their unique bird species fostering a healthier environment and shared quality of life for all; 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 places such as the Rio Grande Valley where Nature Tourism, which is dominated by birding, contributes \$300 million to the local economy and supports 4,407 full time and part time jobs annually; and
- WHEREAS,** the Lights Out program will support 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 and March through May 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 you will extinguish exterior lights during the specified time frame during Lights Out migratory months.
3. The City Secretary is hereby instructed to post this Proclamation at City Hall for public display and enter this document into the permanent records of the municipality.

Bill Foulds, Jr., Mayor