



**PROCLAMATION
OF THE CITY OF DRIPPING SPRINGS
PROCLAIMING SEPTEMBER – NOVEMBER 2024
AND MARCH – MAY 2025, AS**

“Lights Out Migratory Months”

- WHEREAS,** the Audubon National Lights Out Program, established in 1999 in Chicago, Illinois, was organized to protect birds from light pollution; and,
- WHEREAS,** the City of Dripping Springs has acknowledged the importance of preserving the night sky for birds and people; and,
- WHEREAS,** Texas is a major corridor for birds migrating across the United States each year, seeing approximately one billion birds travel through the state annually; and,
- WHEREAS,** it is important to recognize this massive migration occurs mostly at night; and,
- WHEREAS,** birds and other pollinators are essential to our planet’s ecology, act as benchmarks for environmental health, increase livability, and connect people of all ages and abilities to the natural world; and,
- WHEREAS,** studies show birds support local economies in Texas through Nature Tourism, which is dominated by birding; and,
- WHEREAS,** the Lights Out Program encourages businesses and community members to turn off exterior lights from 11:00 p.m. to 6:00 a.m. during migratory months to reduce light pollution, providing safe and natural migration routes for birds; and,
- WHEREAS,** participation in the Lights Out Program supports other Dripping Springs city initiatives such as the International Dark Sky Community designation, Bird City designation, the Dripping Springs Birding Club, Jr. Birding Club, and will support Nature Tourism in Dripping Springs; and,
- WHEREAS,** the Lights Out Dripping Springs 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. September through November of 2024 and March through May of 2025 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 extinguish exterior lights from 11:00 p.m. to 6:00 a.m. during these Lights Out Migratory Months.

Bill Foulds, Jr., Mayor