

older floodlight fixture that had no shielding at all with one that came with a little bit of shielding, enough to work from as a platform to install full cutoff shielding. In addition the new fixture allowed on times of 1, 5 and 20 minutes instead of the old fixture times of 10 and 20 minutes.



The new floodlight fixture was purchased with consideration for its potential for modification.

We determined that 150 watt bulbs were too bright for the purpose of illuminating the garage door entry and for the front door walkway. So we replaced the 150 watt floodlights with 26 watt compact fluorescent floodlight bulbs that gave the equivalent of 90 watts of lights.



Responsible Lighting and Your Home, Part 3

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You may recall my earlier articles in Regulus about applying the tenets of responsible lighting to your home.

In Part 1 ([Regulus](#) - February 2005), we looked at a generic back door lighting situation where there was bad bad lighting. There was too much light, it caused a lot of glare, trespassed onto the neighbours property and was shining up in places that we didn't need it. We corrected that by reducing the wattage and by using full cutoff shielding. In Part 2 ([Regulus](#) - January 2006), we looked at over wattage driveway lights, reducing them from 100 watts each to 7 watt compact fluorescent plus filters.

In this article we look at a fairly standard garage motion sensor floodlight. Typically you would drive home at night, the motion sensor lights go on and you would be blinded by your own floodlights and run into the doorframe. Our first step was to replace our



Compact fluorescent bulbs would drop the power usage from 300 watts to 50 watts, and still give the desired amount of light.

I cut a template out of cardboard and test fitted it until it made a good full cutoff shield that would block direct line of sight light from being seen from someone

walking or driving up the driveway.



The template was applied to some black plastic material from a Crazy Karpet



Sheet metal screws were used to attach the plastic shield to the fixture partial shield after drilling pilot holes through the metal.



Both shields were attached and some minor adjustments of the light aim and some trimming of the plastic gave us our final product



As seen from a 2 meter tall vantage point, the bulbs are not visible at all yet will light up the garage door entry point and the front door walkway

This is another example of what you can do in your own home to help reduce light pollution and promote responsible lighting.

Clear Skies and Dark Skies!

