

City of Annapolis



Proclamation

- WHEREAS, the aesthetic beauty and wonder of the natural night sky is a shared heritage of all humankind, and the experience of standing beneath a star-filled night sky inspires feelings of awe and deepens interest in science and nature, especially among young people; and
- WHEREAS, excessive artificial lighting and light pollution have scientifically established consequences that negatively impact human health, wildlife, and ecosystems, while also wasting energy and financial resources, contributing to carbon emissions, disrupting insect populations, and causing the deaths of millions of migrating birds each year; and
- WHEREAS, the Annapolis Ahead 2040 Comprehensive Plan affirms the City's commitment to environmental sustainability and the mental and physical well-being of its residents, and preserving the natural dark sky aligns with these critical priorities; and
- WHEREAS, Annapolis, as a designated Bird City, values its rich natural resources along the Chesapeake Bay and the Severn and South Rivers, maintaining over 40 parks and trails that encourage outdoor activities such as hiking, birdwatching, and stargazing; and
- WHEREAS, the City of Annapolis is committed to improving public safety through responsible lighting solutions, ensuring that streetlights, public spaces, and infrastructure are illuminated effectively to enhance visibility and security, while also mitigating light pollution by utilizing downward-directed lighting that reduces glare, preserves the night sky, and respects surrounding natural habitats; and
- WHEREAS, DarkSky Maryland, in association with DarkSky International, raises awareness of the effects of light pollution and promotes solutions that balance public safety with environmental conservation, guiding communities in adopting responsible outdoor lighting practices;

**NOW, THEREFORE, I, GAVIN BUCKLEY, MAYOR OF THE CITY OF ANNAPOLIS,
MARYLAND DO HEREBY PROCLAIM**

**April 21 – April 28, 2025 as
International Dark Sky Week
IN THE CITY OF ANNAPOLIS**



A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Gavin Buckley".

Gavin Buckley, Mayor

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto
Set my hand and caused the Great Seal of
the City of Annapolis to be affixed this 21st
Day of April in the year of our Lord,
two thousand twenty-five.