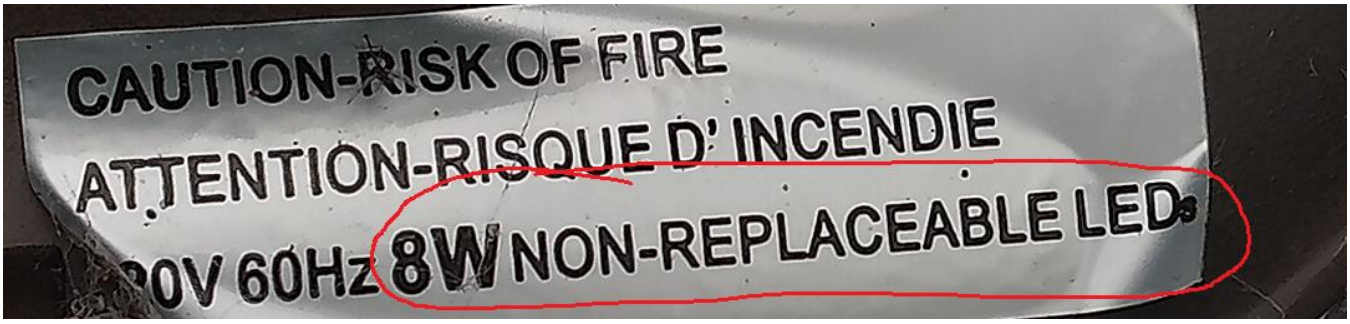
When your outdoor lamp with non-replaceable LEDs fails after a couple of years...

Hi neighbor

I thought I'd share this as a possible alternative to having all our outdoor lamps end up in the dump after two years (or for anyone who doesn't care to spend $400 to replace them -- you can upgrade/fix all four of them for about $15 total!).

Most of our houses use indoor and outdoor lights found at Maxim Lighting online. (If you have a PDF of this file, the link to the original lamp is here, or one with a replaceable bulb is here.)

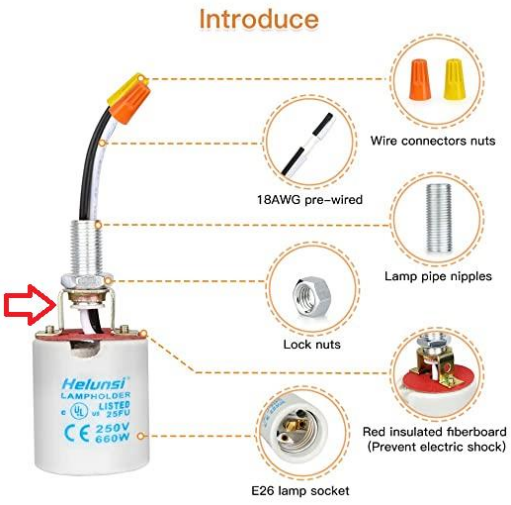
We (Rich & Isobel) moved in to 1237 Vantage Pkwy just over two years ago and one of our outdoor lamps failed last week -- imagine my disappointment when I looked inside the lamp and saw:



Anyway, it turns out these are replaceable with about an hour of work each -- I'm happy to help anyone who would like to try this! If you want to see how it ends up, our southern-most lamp (between our garage and front door) has been replaced already -- I'll do the others as they fail (or as anyone wants to watch it done).

Basically, you just need to a) cut power to the lamp, b) use a utility knife to cut the caulk around the lamp base where it attaches to the house c) remove the two round "nuts" holding the base to the house, and finally d) remove the wire nuts to remove the lamp.

Then you open the lamp and undo all the existing hardware (you will reuse all the existing pipe nipples and lock nuts, as they are the correct length, even for the new receptacle), and replace the lamp itself with a receptacle like one of these from amazon for about $3 each. You'll need to temporarily remove the upright bracket on the receptacle (indicated with the red arrow to the left) to route the wires to the side of the vertical pipe nipple, rather than thru it, then reinstall the upright bracket. You'll finally route the 12" pigtail wire thru the horizontal pipe nipple, rather than the vertical one, then tighten all your lock nuts, and button things back up.



When you are done, you'll have something like:

You'll re-attach the glass after you replace the bulb. The glass makes it a bit hard to reach the bulb. You can either take it off as needed, or use a bulb grabber like shown above to reach thru the glass from the bottom.

The original LED was 8 watts (80 watt equivalent) pointing straight down at a color of 3000K. To match this, I used a 5.5 watt mini spotlight also pointing down, but you can instead use a mini or even a full size 40 watt LED bulb, like this.

For a PDF of this document with live links, see vantage.pdf at: `https://rtestardi.github.io/pages`

If anyone wants to do this together, just give me a yell at: `rtestardi@live.com`

Happy upgrading! :-)

-- neighbor Rich