



Town of Castle Valley Dark Sky Week Proclamation

Whereas, the aesthetic beauty and wonder of a natural night sky is a shared heritage of all humankind; and

Whereas, light pollution has scientifically-established economic and environmental consequences, which result in significant impacts to the ecology and human health of all communities; and

Whereas, the International Dark Sky Association reports that 80-percent of the world's population, including many people in Utah, live under a dome of light pollution-excessive artificial lighting at night that disrupts natural darkness and may never experience the visual wonder or ecological and health benefits of living under a dark sky; and

Whereas, the International Dark Sky Association reports that light pollution represents a waste of natural resources amounting to roughly \$3 billion per year of wasted energy in the United States and contributes to diminished energy security; and

Whereas, the Town of Castle Valley has been governed by a strict lighting ordinance that has been enforced since 1991. An updated and amended lighting ordinance that incorporates the guidelines recommended by the International Dark Sky Association was passed on July 19th 2023; and

Whereas, Dark skies have been and continue to be a priority for Castle Valley residents as shown by past General Plan surveys were in respondents repeatedly confirm their support for the scenic, rural, natural, open space, and dark skies of Castle Valley; and

Whereas, the Town of Castle Valley as of December 2023 is a designated Dark Sky Community; and

Whereas, the International Dark Sky Association, is the globally-recognized authority on light pollution, and has created International Dark Sky Week to raise awareness of light pollution and provide free education, resources, and solutions to the public to encourage the protection of and enjoyment of dark skies and responsible outdoor lighting.

Therefore, I, Jazmine Duncan, Mayor of the Town of Castle Valley, do hereby declare April 2-8, 2024 as INTERNATIONAL DARK SKY WEEK.

In the Town of Castle Valley asks each resident to join me, not only in observing and pondering upon this important week, but also in raising awareness and support for protecting our precious night sky resource.



Jazmine Duncan

Mayor of the Town of Castle Valley