

Energy Efficient Outdoor Lighting

When summer rolls around, we all want to spend more time outdoors and enjoying our outdoor spaces like porches and patios. On summer evenings, these areas often serve as an extension of the living room and can be enhanced by countless energy-efficient lighting options. However, deciding on the best option for your home can be tricky.

Here are a few things to keep in mind ...

- Consider outdoor solar lights. They use solar cells and batteries to power LED lighting that can be used around your porch, deck, patio and walkways.
- This lighting comes in a variety of types, including flood lights, lamp posts, string lights, and staked pathway lights. All are easy to install, often with no electric wiring.
- While these fixtures can be used almost anywhere, it is best to place them in areas that receive a lot of sunlight so the batteries will stay charged. Check the product label for information on "nightly run time" and to see if it will fit the need for your specific area.
- You can also set timers on many of these models that will provide options for the lights to operate from dusk until dawn.
- It's also important to note that replacing aging halogen, fluorescent, or incandescent lighting with energy-efficient LED lighting will improve the performance and durability of your outdoor lighting.
- LED flood lights with motion sensors are a great security options that will save energy since they activate only when they detect motion, then go off after a set period of no activity. They also come in options that are plenty bright for any security purposes or locations.

Start your summer off right and enjoy your newly lit, energy-efficient outdoor space!



