



# Proclamation

THE STATE OF TEXAS §  
COUNTY OF COMAL §  
CITY OF NEW BRAUNFELS §

**WHEREAS**, the aesthetic beauty and wonder of star-filled skies are the heritage of all humankind and locally to the inhabitants of New Braunfels and are therefore worthy of celebration; and

**WHEREAS**, the experience of standing beneath a star-filled night sky inspires feelings of wonder and awe, and may encourage interest in science and nature especially among young people; and

**WHEREAS**, the opportunity to view star-filled skies attracts tourists to our region and therefore economic benefit to New Braunfels; and

**WHEREAS**, preserving the rich historic heritage and starry night skies of New Braunfels is important to its residents; and

**WHEREAS**, "light pollution," which is wasted light that performs no function or task and artificial light that goes where it is not supposed to go, is created by glare, light trespass, sky glow, and over lighting; and

**WHEREAS**, light pollution wastes natural resources amounting to at least \$2 billion per year and contributes to diminished American energy independence; and

**WHEREAS**, the historical view of the night skies has been eroding in many nearby areas and generations are growing up with limited, if any, view of the wonders of the universe; and

**WHEREAS**, the influx of people into the Texas Hill Country region and the accompanying light pollution from area lighting fixtures has been steadily on the rise; and

**WHEREAS**, solving the problem of light pollution involves making better use of outdoor lighting to direct light down to where it is needed instead of upward into the sky, putting outdoor lights on timers and using outdoor lighting only where necessary; and

**WHEREAS**, Hill Country communities are increasingly dedicated to the preservation of the region's night skies, as evidenced by the frequent educational activities conducted in our region; and

**WHEREAS**, this regional effort and the preservation and celebration of our night skies is worthy of a month-long celebration.

**NOW THEREFORE**, be it resolved, that I, Neal Linnartz, Mayor of the City of New Braunfels, Texas, hereby proclaim October 2024 as

## HILL COUNTRY NIGHT SKY MONTH

in the City of New Braunfels and I do thereby encourage citizens to enjoy the night sky and to participate in the New Braunfels, Comal County and Hill County regional events and programs celebrating the night sky and promoting the ways in which communities are working to preserve it.

**IN WITNESS WHEREOF**, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Seal of the City of New Braunfels to be affixed this the 23<sup>rd</sup> day of September 2024.

CITY OF NEW BRAUNFELS

---

NEAL LINNARTZ, Mayor