

***Big Park/Village of Oak Creek designated as an International Dark-Sky Community!***

On February 22, 2016, the International Dark-Sky Association (IDA) designated Big Park/Village of Oak Creek (BPVOC) an International Dark-Sky Community. BPVOC joins Sedona, Flagstaff and only eleven other communities in the world to have achieved this prestigious designation.

According to the IDA, in order to obtain Dark-Sky designation, a community must show “exceptional dedication to the preservation of the night sky through the implementation and enforcement of a quality outdoor lighting ordinance, dark sky education, and citizen support of dark skies. Dark Sky Communities excel in their efforts to promote responsible lighting and dark sky stewardship, and set good examples for surrounding communities.”

This achievement was made possible due to the efforts of the entire community: the Big Park Council, the Yavapai County Board of Supervisors, and the many residents, organizations, and businesses who wrote to the IDA in support of protecting the night sky.

The IDA designations are not permanent. The IDA requires communities to monitor and report annually their night-sky light level and to prevent increases in light pollution as the community grows.