

Impacts from Interior Lighting

State rules require that tinted glass or film with a visible light transmittance value of forty-five (45) percent or less (inside to outside) must be used on all glass windows, doors and walls within line of sight of the beach, usually the seaward and shore-perpendicular sides of the structure. However, since those rules were passed, there are now better options because of advances in tinting and more information on sea turtle disorientations. Window tints/film with transmittance values lower than 45% are available that are energy efficient, pleasing and easily seen through. The best option for minimizing lighting impacts to sea turtles is 15% transmittance, with 25-30% transmittance the most popular. Many local lighting ordinances require that interior lights cannot be visible from the beach; therefore, the use of higher transmittance tints (such as 45%) often requires installation of additional window treatments to achieve compliance with the ordinance.

If the information above is followed, your home or building is not expected to adversely impact nesting sea turtles, their hatchlings or their habitat. Thank you for doing your part to protect Florida's sea turtles!

*Please email Wildlifelighting@MyFWC.com if you need additional information or help.