

<i>12 Volt System</i>	<i>Solar System</i>
Flexibility when installing or relocating; Fixtures are easy to conceal and placement in the landscape is endless.	Not effective for areas that do not get 8 hours of sun. This means solar lights will not function in areas that are shady or do not get adequate daytime sun.
Sturdy durable fixtures designed for longevity made of corrosion resistant materials like aluminum, brass and copper.	Fixtures are typically made of low quality lightweight plastic or light gauge steel.
Produces clean bright light. Intensity of light is determined by fixture type, lamp wattage and desired intensity.	Low light output usually not effective for security lighting or broad area lighting.
Lamps are available in numerous wattage and many beam spreads; more precise and dramatic lighting effects can be achieved.	Due to limited light output creating various lighting effects are limited.
No time constraints on hours of nighttime operation.	Operates off of stored solar energy in battery. Becomes dim as battery is depleted.
Numerous fixtures and accessories available to provide desired lighting effects.	Typically available in path lights and ineffective spot lights only.
Most manufacturers' provide 5, 10 year or lifetime warranties on fixtures and control systems.	1-2 year life expectancy.
Extremely energy efficient to operate.	Zero operating cost.

Estimated energy cost based on all 20w lamps operating an annual average of 5 hours per night at a power company rate of 10 cents per kilowatt hour: $12 \times 20w \times 5 \text{ hours} \times 0.10 \text{ kWhr} = \$0.12/\text{night}$.