BUILDING LIGHTNING SAFE COMMINITIES



Communication Tools for Your Campaign

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Member NLSC, NFPA, LSA & ULPA

Identify your campaign objectives.



What are you looking to achieve?

- Change apathy about lightning and increase awareness about its dangers.
- Educate public about best practices for lightning safety.
- f Educate property owners, A &E's and builders about best practices for lightning protection.
- feducate property owners about quality assurance for lightning protection systems (LPS).
- Provide best practices for lightning safety during outdoor events.
- Create support synergies with partner organizations and safety stakeholders.





Give your campaign a theme.

Piggyback on existing slogans or launch your own lightning safety initiative.



Building Lightning Safe Communities

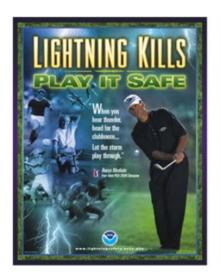
Striking Back at Lightning

Lightning Kills. Play it Safe.

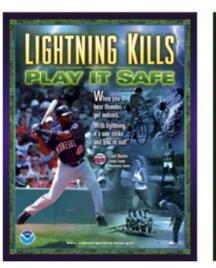
Protect Today to Weather Tomorrow's Storms

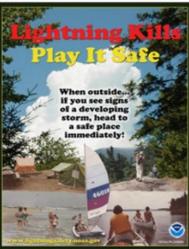
Safer Design for Safer Play

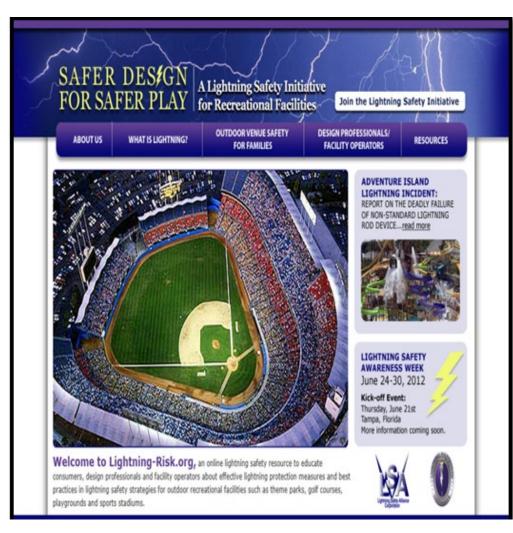






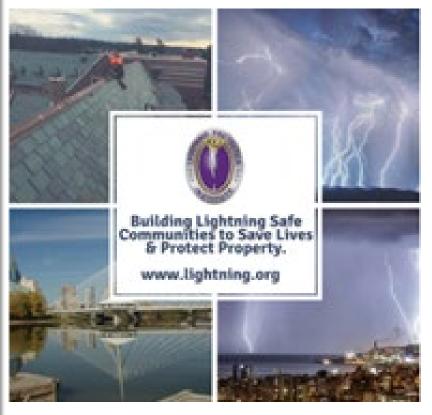












Determine your campaign budget.

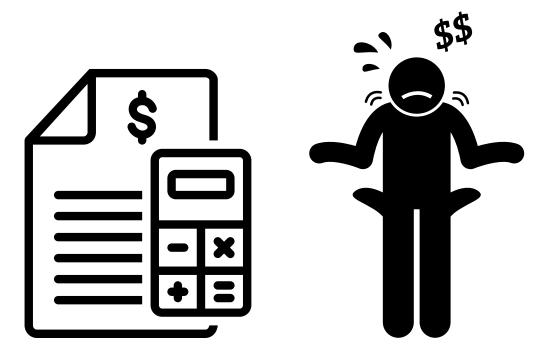
Determine what your campaign budget is and who can help with donations and \$ funding.

Volunteer and grassroots efforts may want to seek out associations, individuals or stakeholders who can contribute time, talent and resources.

Cite statistics about lightning deaths and property losses to gain support of safety stakeholders.

Cite trends affecting building and the construction market to gain support for communication that educates the public about safety standard-compliant lightning protection systems.

Building lightning safe communities helps protect people, property and places from a leading weather risk.



Are there companies who can help sponsor your campaign efforts or help host an event?

Lightning's Lethal Fury

A single lightning strike can carry as much as 200 kA of destructive electric energy, which can rip through roofs, explode walls of brick and concrete, ravage circuitry, perforate gas piping and ignite deadly structural fires. Compared to a household electrical circuit of 120 volts, a single lightning strike can carry up to 300 million volts of electrical energy, which can pack a powerful punch. Loss tracking sources reveal shocking statistics about lightning's yearly toll.



other structures-adding up to a multitude of costly, yet preventable economic consequences.

Trends Affecting Lightning Protection Requirements

LPS requirements are on the rise. Trends we're seeing in the industry include:



Insurance companies recommending lightning protection and providing customer incentives for LPS installations.



Requirements at local and state levels, for LPS on buildings such as educational facilities, hospitals, extended care homes and healthcare facilities.



Litigation stemming from largescale lightning losses and OSHA citations for failure to provide adequate LPS are a concern for today's building planners.



Federal agencies like the FAA, VA, DoD, Federal Bureau of Prisons and others routinely call for LPS to meet or exceed NFPA 780, with third-party inspection and certification cited for all systems.



With lightning a preventable loss, mitigation guidelines are increasingly calling for construction planners to include provisions for LPS or lightning risk assessment in their projects.



Concerns about CSST gas piping and lightning-related losses have led to increased recommendations for bonding, grounding and LPS applications for homes in high-risk regions.

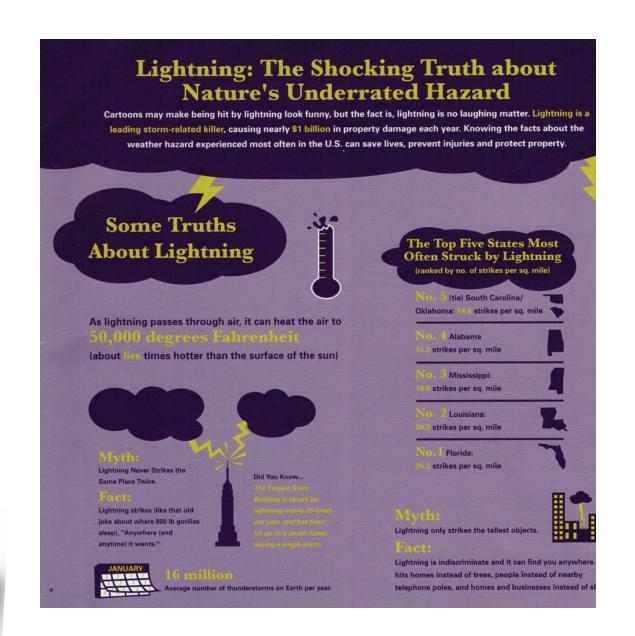
Let your graphics do the talking.

Infographics help communicate safetymessages, slogans and education 411.





Adopt a mascot like Leon the Lightning Lion to lend a friendly face to your campaign.



How lightning enters a structure:



Through a direct strike that can ignite fires or explode roofing, brick, wood, mortar or concrete



Via surges or side flash delivered through a nearby tree or pole



Via roof projections like antennas, architectural ornaments, vent fans and satellite dishes



electronics, cable lines and data systems

All of the above can create a pathway for lightning's extreme electricity and destructive energy



Through a strike to a chimney, dormer, cupola or metal roofing accessory



systems, invisible fences, security systems and



utility lines, and electronics



Through metallic lines, piping or CSST gas piping



LIGHTNING SAFETY AWARENESS WEEK IS JUNE 21



SUPPORT WORLDWIDE AWARENESS!

Studies from Asia, Africa and South America show that the level of lightning deaths, injuries and property losses remains unacceptably high. Devastating losses have prompted the Centre for Science and Technology of the Non-Aligned & Other Developing Countries to













Develop marketing tools for your campaign.

GETTINGSTARTED- How to join the Lightning Safety Awareness effort.

- 1. Visit www.lightningsafetycouncil.org for information and resources. Connect wit us on Twitter, LinkedIn, Facebook and Instagram.
- 2. Create a campaign poster to hang in your office or throughout your community.
- 3. Plan an outreach event in your office, local school or community gathering place. Kickoff the campaign on a designated day or during an event to boost enthusiasm.
- 4. Share the campaign with your local media by submitting a letter to the editor, press release or media alert.
- 5. Ask your local, regional or national government oversight body to issue a proclamation or the equivalent in your country—recognizing the month, week or day.
- 6. Run a social media campaign. Use the hashtag #LSAW21or create your own.



Implement multiple methods of campaign communication.

Lightning Safety Awareness Week National Kickoff Events

Friday, June 29 - Mount Washington Observatory Weather Discovery Center

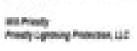
- * 7:00 pm lectures, Light refreshments at 6:30 pm
- * Lectures on Lightning, Lightning Safety, and Lightning Protection.

Saturday, June 20 - Storyland Amusement Park

- 9:30 am Media event
- 10:00 am Public event
- Short talks and demonstrations
- Safety materials and brochures



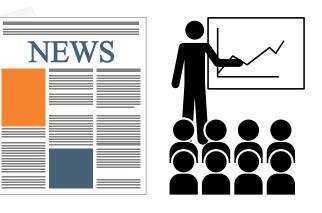


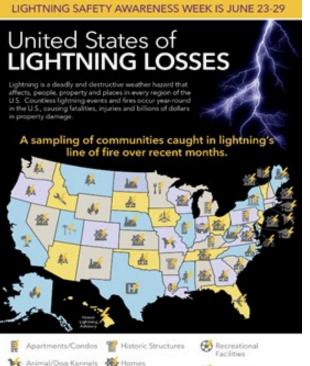


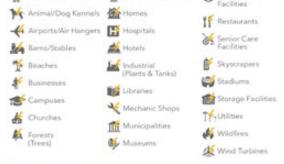




Assign a campaign spokesperson or spokespersons to handle media inquiries and connect media with subject experts for interviews and quotes.









Engage with public officials to hold a press event.





Share your messaging on social media outlets and connect with @ mentions.

Tie your safety message

to existing campaigns.



Lightning is a leading, yet underrated cause of home and building fires. The NFPA's annual Fire Prevention Week campaign provides an opportunity to promote lightning safety and lightning protection every October.









Piggyback on other campaigns to promote aspects of lightning safety awareness and lightning education.





Pitch your campaign to the media.





Prepare a press release or media alert to communicate the Who/What/Where/When/Why/How of your campaign to your local media.

Be sure to use all available social media channels to boost your news release and invite local weather experts to support the campaign on air.



We've noticed that meteorologists love lightning safety visors.





Do unexpected findings warrant a news update?
If so you may have an opportunity for follow-up campaign exposure with the media.

Engage partners and lightning safety stakeholders.

Identify Target Audiences Connect with Supporters



Seek to connect with celebrities, spokespersons, safety enthusiasts, fire fighters or meteorologists in your community who you can partner with you to elevate the profile of your message and help create a buzz about your campaign.











Organizations we've partnered with for Lightning Safety Awareness.

A sampling of organizations that have helped promote the National Lightning Safety Awareness Week campaign.





























Evaluate your campaign.

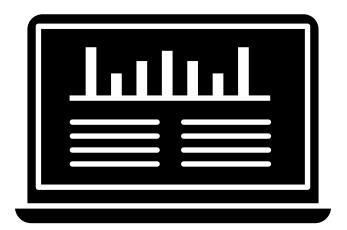
Evaluate your campaign to determine what worked and what didn't. Create a campaign binder with a check list to make notes of successes and setbacks.

Schedule a campaign recap meeting to record group and partner feedback and suggestions for strategies to implement in the future.



Survey members & stakeholders

Circulate a SHORT followup survey to campaign supporters to gauge their thoughts and receive feedback and suggestions for improvement.



ReviewSocialMediaMetrics

Review your social media metrics and website analytics to learn which materials, messaging and posts gained the most traction with likes, shares, clicks, mentions, etc.



Budget \$

There was no budget for this release. Cost for Send2press budget distribution (nonprofit) package services was \$99. Entrant, Kimberly Loehr, who pitched the idea, paid the newswire cost as a donation in conjunction with her service as a NLSC member.

Theme & Timetable

The release was issued on December 17, 2020, as the NLSC's year-end overview of lightning deaths in the U.S. and to correct a prior report of "record-breaking lightning deaths for 2020" as reported by the WaPo Capital Weather Gang on 10/3/20:

https://www.washingtonpost.co m/weather/2020/10/03/finallysome-good-news-2020-us-istrack-fewest-lightning-fatalitiessingle-year/

Press Release Overview

NATIONAL LIGHTNING SAFETY COUNCIL - CLIENT

"Will Lightning Death Count for U.S. Remain Unconfirmed?" December 17, 2020 - Kimberly Loehr

GENERAL OBJECTIVES

1.Correct erroneous information about "record-breaking" lightning death count for 2020, as reported by the WaPo Capital Weather Gang on October 3, 2020.

2. Explain the unprecedented difficulties and obstacles in obtaining accurate lightning death count statistics for 2020 due to challenges presented by the COVID-19 pandemic.

3. Help generate "off-season" PR about lightning safety to support the goals of the NLSC.

AUDIENCE TARGETED

Media, health care providers, risk management professionals, safety advocates, weatherr experts and the public at large.

Media Contacted

Press Release was distributed via Send2Press newswire services: https://www.send2press.com/services/ via the "Standard Online Focus" distribution plan for nonprofit organizations. The distribution reached U.S. Daily Media (print and broadcast) in Maine (NLSC headquarters), placement in Apple News, Google News & Bing News; Syndication onto 150+ websites via AP (including newspaper and broadcast websites; the Financial Content Network and exclusive placement on Neotrope News Network. The release was also pushed to AP newsrooms and terminals. The release was also boosted through website postings, social media shares and included on LinkedIn and NLSC partner e-blasts.

Follow-up

Media types accessing the release included: newspaper, radio, t.v., online services, bloggers and freelance writers. Kim also contacted nonprofit partners and safety groups to help promote the release. Copies and links to the release links were also featured on partner websites and in social media posts.

Evaluation

A clip report with analytics has been forwarded to NLSC members. To briefly summarize, the clip report cited: pick-ups by 353 media sites; media targets to 4400 outlets; an engagement score of 2500 and a potential viewing audience of 55 million. (I invite members to Google the headline for "news" and you'll see pick-up out there online!)

Seek resources from lightning protection experts.

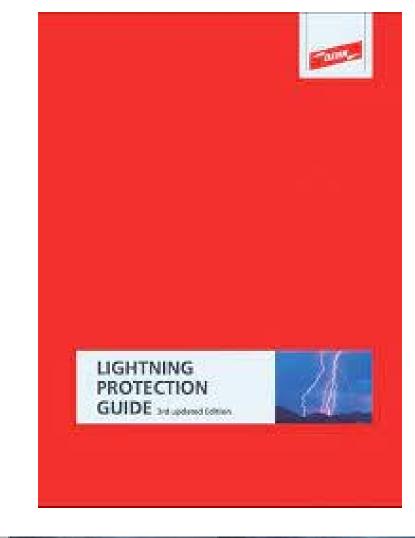








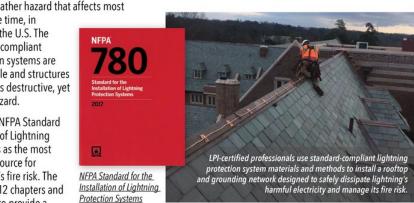




Doesn't it make sense to protect today's structures to weather tomorrow's storms?

Lightning is the weather hazard that affects most people, most of the time, in the most places of the U.S. The good news? Code-compliant lightning protection systems are safeguarding people and structures to help manage this destructive, yet preventable fire hazard.

LPI recognizes the NFPA Standard for the Installation of Lightning Protection Systems as the most comprehensive resource for reducing lightning's fire risk. The standard includes 12 chapters and 10 annex sections to provide a thorough overview of requirements and applications for lightning protection systems.



Visit www.lightning.org to learn how safety standard compliant lightning protection systems (LPS) are fortifying structures against a leading weather risk.

The Lightning Protection Institute (LPI) is a not-for-profit group dedicated to promoting lightning safety, awareness and education-your leading resource for safety standard compliant lightning protection systems.









Watch and Learn how safety standard compliant lightning protection systems are critical in building lightning safe communities!

Connect with the National Safety Council as a resource for lightning safety 411.

Share NLSC website and social media resources to help build lightning safe communities globally.



"Dr. Lightning"
(aka John
Jensenius) is
on call for expert
advice and
lightning safety
media interviews.





Mary Ann Cooper, MD

"Just as we have brought down the injury rates in the US, we can start decreasing the injury rates in tropical developing countries, step by step, school by school, village by village until we have an avalanche of successes."

READ THE BLOG







www.lightningsafetycouncil.or

Lightning Safety Awareness Week at a glance.

A look back at 20+ years of the Lightning Safety Awareness Week Campaign.





TODAY

















Debunking Myths About

Lightning Safety and Lightning Protection

stood weather perils. As new and old myths about lightning continue to circulate through the internet and social media, it's safety and protection measures. The shocking truth is that light ing is a leading storm-related killer that is responsible for nearly can save lives, prevent injuries and protect property.

ecutive director for the Lightning Protection Institute (LPI), a not-NOAA (National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration) and he National Weather Service began lightning awareness efforts



places against lightning's deadly, yet underrated threat.

lightning safety, there are still many myths and misunderstand ings that persist," said John Jensenius, a lightning safety spe orts to separate fact from fiction about lightning and its risks.

you are not touching metal. (Lightning's electricity travels along the metal shell and frame and into the ground.)

Myth: Metal attracts lightning, so you shouldn't wear metal



or when lightning strikes. People are struck by lightning because they are in the wrong place at the wrong time - anywhere out side is unsafe during a thunderstorm. Holding a golf club or cell phone does not increase one's risk for being struck, which is why

today's homes and buildings, lightning protection is increase

tection against lightning.

ing protection system. A holt of lightning can generate up to 200 kA of electrical energy, spelling disastrous consequence





Thank you for supporting lightning safety awareness.

YOU ARE HELPING
BUILDING
BUILDING
SAFE COMMINITY
COMMINITY

OF THE SERVICE OF THE

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