

LEARN TO BE WEATHER-READY LIKE IUP

WEATHER SAFETY WARMUP WEBINAR SERIES

LET'S GET STARTED! BUT FIRST – HOUSE KEEPING NOTES



- This webinar is being recorded and will be sent out shortly after the webinar
- Have a question? Use the chat box and we will get to the question at the end of the session
- Want to learn more? We have additional sessions every month!
- You can also provide feedback, suggest a topic or ask a question by emailing us at info@earthnetworks.com



KEVIN THELEN

*Director of Public Safety & Police
at Indiana University of Pennsylvania*



INDIANA UNIVERSITY OF PENNSYLVANIA (IUP)

LOCATION

Indiana, PA

DETAILS

- Public research university
- Founded 1875
- 11,000 students
- 1,400 faculty and staff
- Competes as a NCAA Division 2 university
- Main campus 62 facilities sitting on 374 acres
- Home to 5000-seat Kovalchick Convention and Athletic Complex (KCAC)



WEATHER THREATS AND CHALLENGES



WEATHER THREATS

- Severe winter storms
- Severe thunderstorms that brings hail
- Flooding
- Lightning
- Tornadoes
- Extreme cold/wind chill and heat/heat index

WEATHER CHALLENGES

- Business continuity
- Safety of guests
- Faculty, staff, and student safety
- Emergency warning compliance (Clery Act)

RECENT NOTABLE SEVERE WEATHER EVENTS

JUNE 2017

- Back-to-back weeks of torrential rain
- Led to two separate 100-year flood designations

2016 & 2018

- High heat index warnings

THIS YEAR

- Polar vortex

RECURRING WEATHER EVENT

- Tornado warnings



MANAGING WEATHER THREATS



PREVIOUS MONITORING & ALERTING METHODOLOGY

- Used an Emergency Operations Plan that was not specific to IUP
- Used the following to monitor severe weather
 - Commercially available websites & apps
 - Local county emergency management office

ISSUES

- Too cumbersome
- Not reliable
- Not timely

MANAGING WEATHER THREATS

NEED FOR CHANGE

- Hazard Mitigation Plan findings
 - Over last 50 years
 - All disasters and emergency declarations were weather-related
- Severe weather monitoring and alerting were inadequate



WEATHER SOLUTION



CURRENT MONITORING & ALERTING METHODOLOGY

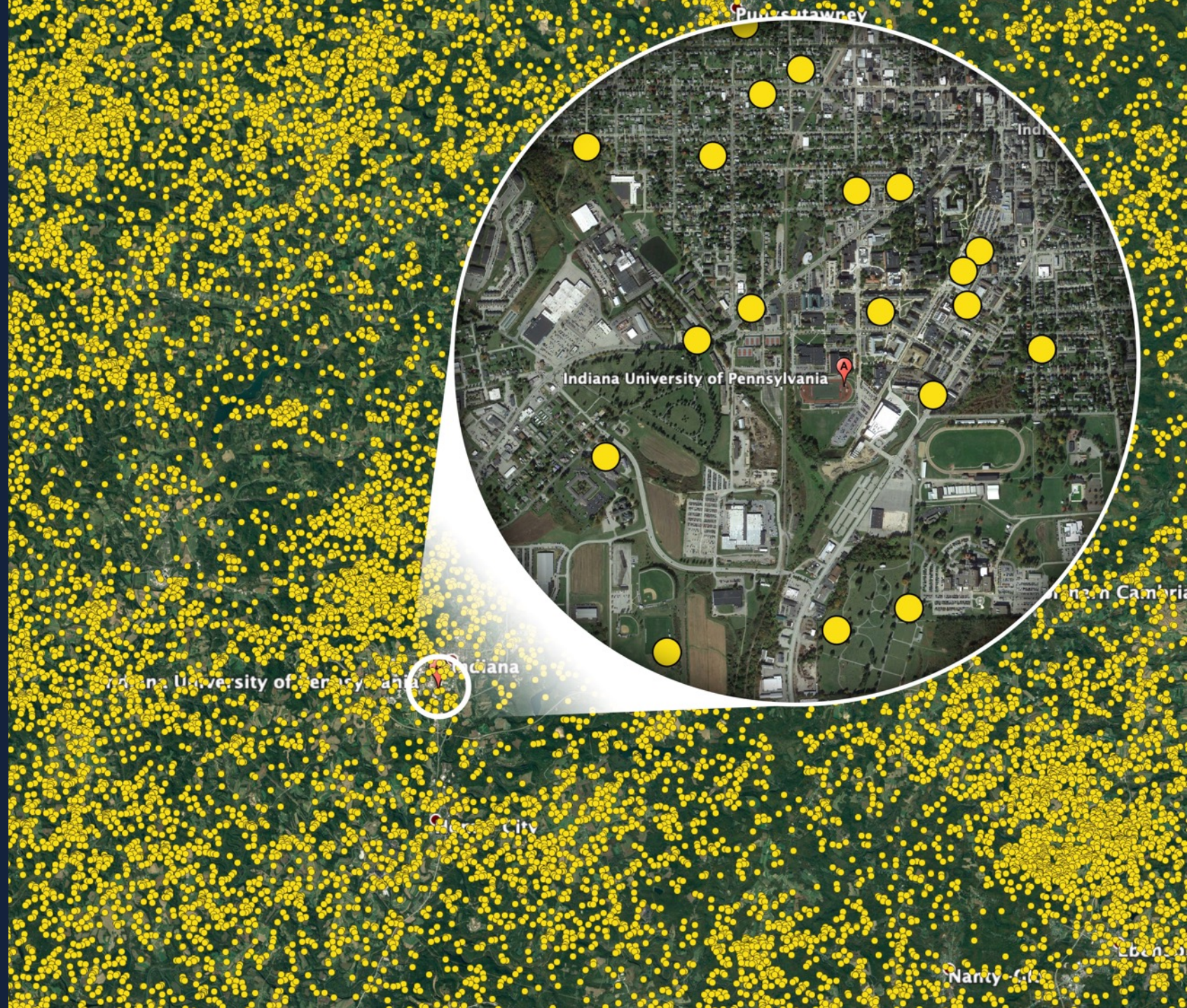
- New Emergency Operation Plan
- Implemented a severe weather safety training initiative
- Used the following stack to monitor and alert on severe weather:
 - Earth Networks Weather Station
 - Mobile Alerts using Sferic Maps
 - Outdoor alerting horn & strobe
 - Mass notification system

WEATHER SAFETY TEAM

- Inclement Weather Advisory Team (IWAT)
- Emergency department

2018 LIGHTNING REPORT IUP INDIANA, PA

The graphic shows that there were **35,585** CG lightning strikes within a **25-mile radius** of IUP in 2018. There were a total of **651,362** CG & IC lightning strikes in that area during 2018.



“Nothing is 100% effective, but I do feel IUP is in a far better position to **monitor weather risks, alert, and respond to threats** than in years past.”



TAKE AWAY



Almost 80% of disasters recorded in the US each year are weather-related



Emergency management personnel need to become more knowledgeable about weather risks and solutions in their area to be effective



Having the right Emergency Operations Plan and technology stack makes a huge big difference when managing weather threats



THANK YOU

QUESTIONS AND COMMENTS?

Contact us at info@earthnetworks.com