

Outdoor light not on? Please let us know

If you are aware of an inoperative or malfunctioning outdoor light on Clay Electric Cooperative's lines, sign into the MyClayElectric online portal and app to fill out a form, or call 1-800-224-4917 to report the problem. To register for the portal, if you have not already, visit MyClayElectric.com.

When reporting the problem, you will need to provide the following so the co-op can make the repair, and contact you should there be any questions:

- (1) Specific street address where the outdoor light is located.
- (2) A description of where the outdoor light is located on the property.
- (3) Description of the nature of the malfunction or failure of illumination of the outdoor light.
- (4) Sufficient contact information to include your name, address, telephone number, account number and email address (if using the online form).

This information is printed in compliance with Florida Statute 768.1382.



FORECAST

Continued from front

The team predicts 2022 hurricane activity will be about 135 percent of the average season. The 2021 hurricane season had eight landfalling continental U.S. hurricanes, including Ida, a Category 4 storm that devastated the central Gulf Coast on the anniversary of Hurricane Katrina.

Members are reminded to take the proper precautions and to remember that it takes only one landfall event nearby to make this an active season.

The co-op offers lots of information to help its members prepare for the possibility a hurricane may strike North Florida, including a Hurricane Preparedness Guide. Copies of the guide are available at ClayElectric.com and at the co-op's six district offices.

See if you are in an outage, view status of repairs, more with MyClayElectric portal

Did your lights just go out? Before you call, check MyClayElectric.

With the co-op's self-serve customer service system, you can see if you are in a known outage, report outages and view the status of repairs online or in the mobile app. You can register for the service at MyClayElectric.com or by downloading the MyClayElectric app.

MyClayElectric also has several features that make managing your account easy — anytime, anywhere. Once registered, you'll be able to conveniently pay your bill, view your usage, contact customer service and get the latest news. If you can't get online to view or report an outage, please call 1-888-434-9844.

Power Line is an informational publication of Clay Electric Cooperative, Inc. It is distributed monthly with members' statements. If you have questions or comments about Power Line, write Justin Caudell at P.O. Box 308, Keystone Heights, FL 32656; or email: Jcaudell@clayelectric.com. Clay Electric Cooperative's Board of Trustees will meet at noon Thursday, June 23 and Thursday, July 28 in Keystone Heights.

The Clay Electric Cooperative, Inc. _____

Power Line

June 2022

Hurricane forecast calls for 19 storms

A weather forecast team from Colorado State University has predicted an above-average level of activity in the Atlantic basin this hurricane season.

The CSU Tropical Meteorology Project says there will be an average of 19 named storms, with nine of those storms developing into hurricanes in the Atlantic this season, which runs from June 1 through Nov. 30.

The team predicts:

- A 71 percent chance at least one major hurricane will make landfall on the United States coastline in 2022 (the long-term average probability is 52 percent).
- A 47 percent chance a major hurricane will make landfall on the East Coast, including the Florida Peninsula (the long-term average is 31 percent).
- A 46 percent chance a major hurricane will make landfall on the Gulf Coast from the Florida Panhandle west to Brownsville (the long-term average is 30 percent).



Continued on back panel



Clay Electric Cooperative was rated by our customers

**#1 in Customer Satisfaction
with Residential Electric Service
Among Cooperatives**

For J.D. Power 2021 award information, visit jdpower.com/awards

Report from the manager

Ricky Davis

General Manager/CEO



New ways to use electricity

Electric appliances and equipment are becoming more popular than ever among consumers.

Technological advancements and battery power coupled with decreasing costs are winning over consumers looking for comparable productivity and versatility. A bonus is the use of electric equipment is quieter and better for the environment.

Inside the home, consumers and homebuilders alike are turning to electric appliances to increase energy efficiency and savings. Whether it's a traditional electric stove or an induction stove top, both are significantly more efficient than a gas oven. That's because conventional residential cooking tops typically use gas or resistance heating elements to transfer energy with efficiencies of 32 percent and 75 percent respectively (according to ENERGY STAR®). Electric induction stoves, which cook food without any flame, will reduce indoor air pollution and can bring water to a boil about twice as fast as a gas stove. Robotic vacuums are also gaining in popularity. Fortune Business Insights attributes the growth and popularity of robotic vacuums like Roomba to a larger market trend of smart home technology and automation (think Alexa directing a Roomba to vacuum).

More tools and equipment with small gas-powered motors are being replaced with electric ones that include plug-in batteries. In the past few years, technology in battery storage has advanced significantly. Hand-held tools with plug-in batteries can hold a charge longer and offer the user the same versatility and similar functionality as gas-powered tools. For DIYers and those in the building trades, national brands such as Makita, Ryobi and Milwaukee offer electric versions of their most

popular products like drills, saws and sanders. In addition to standard offerings, consumers can now purchase a wider array of specialty tools that plug-in, such as power inverters, air inflators and battery chargers.

Keith Dennis, an energy industry expert and president of the Beneficial Electrification League notes, "A few years back, the list of new electric product categories that were making their way to the market was limited — electric scooters, lawn mowers, leaf blowers and vehicles."

Today, the number of electric products available is exploding.

"There are electric bikes, school buses, pressure washers, utility terrain vehicles, backhoes — even airplanes and boats," Dennis said. "With the expansion of batteries and advancements in technology, we are seeing almost anything that burns gasoline or diesel as having an electric replacement available on the market."

A case in point is the increased use of electric-powered tools and equipment, with more national brands offering a wider selection including lawn mowers, leaf blowers and string trimmers. The quality of zero- or low-emissions lawn equipment is also improving.

Electric equipment also requires less maintenance, and often the biggest task is keeping them charged. In addition, electric equipment is quieter so if you want to listen to music or your favorite podcast while performing outdoor work, you can — something that wouldn't be possible with gas-powered equipment. On the horizon, autonomous lawn mowers (similar to robotic vacuum cleaners) will be seen dotting outdoor spaces.

Another benefit of using electric appliances or equipment is that by virtue of being plugged into the grid, the environmental performance of electric devices improves over time. In essence, electricity is becoming cleaner through increases in renewable energy generation, so electronic equipment will have a diminishing environmental impact.

Quite a hat trick — improving efficiency, quality of life and helping the environment.

For more energy information, including a special section on the advantages of owning an EV, visit ClayElectric.com.

Operate generators with safety in mind

Every time a large storm threatens Florida, news accounts show residents snapping up portable generators.

Clay Electric wants to remind owners of portable generators the improper use of these devices can create an extremely dangerous situation if they backfeed electricity into the co-op's distribution system. This situation could result in serious injury or death to an unsuspecting serviceworker, neighbor or family member.

Portable generators should never be wired directly into a home's distribution (breaker) panel or into a receptacle that's connected to a home's electrical panel. Appliances should be plugged into the generator's outlets, or connected to a heavy-duty extension cord that plugs into the generator. It's a good idea to familiarize yourself with the generator's safety and operating guidelines before using it at your home.

Some members choose to have a permanent stand-by generator installed in their home. Electrical codes require stand-by generators permanently installed must be wired to a transfer switch separating the generator from the outside power source when it's operating.

For more information about stand-by or portable generator systems and their proper installation, please call the co-op's Energy Services Division (1-800-771-2325, Ext: 8263).

