

## Time to prepare for 2021 hurricane season

The 2021 Atlantic hurricane season, which includes the Atlantic Ocean, Gulf of Mexico and the Caribbean Sea, runs from June 1 to Nov. 30. However, storms can form before or after these dates. In their first forecast for the season, researchers at Colorado State University (CSU) have forecasted 17 named storms and expect eight to become hurricanes and four to become major hurricanes (Category 3 or higher). According to CSU, an average season is one with 14 named storms, seven hurricanes and three major hurricanes. CSU also said there's a 70 percent chance of a major hurricane making landfall along the U.S. coastline, 45 percent for the East Coast and 44 percent for the Gulf Coast.

"While these are early projections and subject to change, it's always better to be prepared," said James Lass, director of distribution operations and emergency management. "Last year's hurricanes, including the pandemic, taught us to expect the unexpected."



## Hurricane Preparedness Tips

- Prepare a storm kit – gather supplies you might need during a power outage, including flashlights, batteries, canned food, manual can opener, bottled water, medication and a first aid kit.
- Develop an evacuation plan.
- Consider locations other than public shelters due to the pandemic.
- Test your generator to make sure it's working.
- Have a battery-powered radio to receive updates broadcast by the media.
- Review your insurance policies.
- Take pictures or video of the inside and outside areas of your home or business for potential insurance needs.
- Plan ahead for medical or special needs.

## New online home energy audit available

Is your home as energy efficient as it could be? Improving your home's insulation, heating and cooling systems can save energy and make your home more comfortable.

Cleco's Online Home Energy Audit quickly identifies areas of your home that aren't as energy efficient as they could be. When you complete the audit, you'll receive a customized report with suggestions for improvements, as well as any rebates or financial incentives available to assist you with recommended upgrades. Some recommendations may be simple behavior changes, which can be done at no cost! Visit [cleco.com/energyefficiency](http://cleco.com/energyefficiency) to start saving.

## ONLINE HOME ENERGY AUDIT

Learn how to reduce your energy consumption in 10 minutes or less!  
[cleco.com/energyefficiency](http://cleco.com/energyefficiency)



# Cleco in the Community

## Cleco donates \$1,500 to DeSoto Regional Health System Foundation



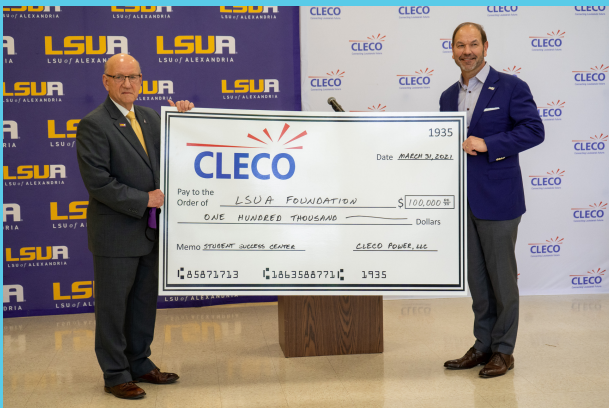
In April, Cleco presented \$1,500 to the DeSoto Regional Health System Foundation to support the health care system's plan to completely modernize its Mansfield Campus, enlarge its emergency department and build a new rural health clinic.

## Cleco donates \$20,000 to American Red Cross



In April, Cleco presented \$20,000 to the American Red Cross to assist Louisianans when disasters strike. The American Red Cross relies on donations and community partners to provide free emergency assistance, disaster relief and disaster preparedness education throughout the United States.

## Cleco donates \$100,000 to LSUA



In March, Cleco presented \$100,000 to Louisiana State University of Alexandria to assist in building their first-ever Student Success Center.

## Cleco donates \$20,000 to SLCC



In March, Cleco presented \$20,000 to South Louisiana Community College to establish an endowed scholarship for their Power Lineman and Electrical programs.

For the latest on career opportunities, community events, safety tips and more, visit Cleco's website at [cleco.com](http://cleco.com) or follow the company on social media.

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## FRUIT DIP

1 package of cream cheese (softened), 1 c powdered sugar, 3 tsp caramel (melted), 1 Heath candy bar (broken into pieces), sliced apples for dipping



Beat cream cheese and powdered sugar until creamy. Spread in shallow dish. Melt caramel and drizzle over top of mixture. Break up Heath bar and sprinkle over top of caramel. Use as fruit dip with sliced apples.