

Energy Matters

News, Resources, & Answers for Cleco Customers



Cleco gives

Cleco and its employees wrapped up 2017 by sharing the gift of giving. Through fundraisers, employee contributions and company-match contributions, Cleco raised over **\$204,000** for Louisiana United Ways in the Cleco service area.



Cleco employees, Michelle Corley, NERC compliance supervisor; Nicole Matt, assistant to the president & CEO; Lauren Laborde, attorney; Cindy Rine, senior operations business specialist; and Stephanie Huffman, NERC compliance and training specialist, volunteered for the 2017 United Way campaign.



Stay safe with Cleco

With the weather warming up, you'll want to head outdoors. Here are some tips on how to stay safe this spring.

- Avoid overhead and underground power lines when you use a ladder, prune trees, clean a pool, work on the roof, carry long tools or pipes or dig in the yard.



- Do not let children climb trees near power lines.
- If a toy, such as a kite, becomes tangled in power lines or inside a substation, call Cleco at **1-800-622-6537**. Do not try to retrieve it.

Cleco has a new CEO

After a nationwide search, Cleco has named William "Bill" Fontenot as its new CEO.

A native of Ville Platte, La., Fontenot began his Cleco career over 30 years ago as an engineer and has worked in various capacities at the company, including business development, commercial operations and utility operations. For the last six years, Bill has served as Chief Operating Officer overseeing generation, transmission and distribution asset operations and investment.



"I am thankful for the opportunity to lead Cleco," said Fontenot. "With the help of our 1,200 loyal and dedicated employees, we will continue to safely serve our 288,000 customers while sustaining and growing the company."



Follow us on Facebook for the latest on community events, energy savings, safety tips and more!

www.Facebook.com/ClecoPower

We invite you to connect and share with us. Please continue to call **1-800-622-6537** to report outages and emergencies. MyAccount users can report outages online or by texting "**OUT**" to **25326** (CLECO).



Storm charge reminder:

Customers began paying a storm charge in May 2006. In March 2008, Cleco securitized the funds used to pay for the Katrina/Rita storm damages and created a fund for future storm repair, and the monthly cost to customers was reduced. The securitized bonds were issued by a Special Purpose Entity (SPE), Cleco Katrina/Rita Hurricane Recovery Funding LLC, a subsidiary of Cleco Power LLC. The SPE is the owner of the rights to the storm recovery charge while Cleco Power LLC acts as the collection agent for the SPE. This surcharge will continue through 2019.

Congrats to our crews

Edison Electric Institute (EEI) presented Cleco with two Emergency Assistance Awards for its outstanding work assisting utilities and customers impacted by Hurricane Harvey in August 2017 and Hurricane Irma in September 2017.

"Cleco is honored to receive these awards in recognition of the hard work and dedication of our line mechanics and emergency response team during one of the most devastating hurricane seasons in history," said Cleco CEO Bill Fontenot.



Members of the Cleco Storm Team

Cleco Corner

On Jan. 26, 2018, Cleco chief information officer, Mark Northrup, was appointed by Gov. John Bel Edwards to the Louisiana Cybersecurity Commission.

Northrup has over 20 years of experience in the information technology and cybersecurity and has been with Cleco for four years.

"Being appointed to the Louisiana Cybersecurity Commission is an honor," said Northrup. "I look forward to working with the Governor and Louisiana's innovative technology leaders to provide better cybersecurity for Louisiana."



Mark Northrup, Cleco chief information officer

Teche Safety Milestone

Teche Power Station in Baldwin, La. recently celebrated 30 years without a lost-time accident. This milestone represents Teche workers' long-term dedication to safety. Congratulations on a job well done.



Cleco in the community

Cleco line mechanics put on a Hot Spot safety demonstration for students at Sixth Ward Elementary School's Science Night in Pearl River, La.



Cleco demonstrated its commitment to the communities it serves by contributing to local technical and community colleges. South Louisiana Community College in New Iberia received **\$20,000** and Northwest Louisiana Technical College in Mansfield received **\$10,000** to help provide scholarships and training for students.



Pepper Jelly



- ¼ c. seeded ground hot pepper, jalapeno
- ¾ c. seeded ground bell pepper
- 1 ½ c. apple cider vinegar
- 6 ½ c. sugar
- 6 oz. Certo

Directions:

Heat sugar, apple cider vinegar, and juice from peppers. Bring to a boil. Add ground pepper (both green and red peppers can be used). Stir well. Let come to a rolling boil. Remove from heat. Let stand 10 minutes. Add Certo. Stir mixture well. Pour into hot, sterilized jar and seal.