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**2025 Hurricane
Preparedness
Guide**



ATLANTIC HURRICANE SEASON: JUNE 1 - NOVEMBER 30



**WE'RE READY.
ARE YOU?**



**HURRICANE
PREPAREDNESS GUIDE**

BLINKS AREN'T BAD

Continued from cover

trying and trigger a full outage, which then prompts a response from our lineworkers.

By interrupting the power briefly, the system avoids larger, sustained outages and can often restore service automatically. That's a win for reliability and safety.

Some things to consider:

- A **single blink** during a storm? It's likely the system protecting itself.
- **Multiple blinks** in a row? It probably means the system is trying to clear a persistent obstruction.
- **Frequent blinks** with no storm activity? There may be an equipment issue or interference on the line. Report it through your MyClayElectric app by tapping "more" and "contact us."

We highly recommend you invest in surge protectors for important devices like TVs, computers, routers and gaming systems. You should consider uninterruptible power supplies (UPS) for desktops or medical equipment, which keep things running during brief interruptions or help you shut down safely.

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 Nick Jones at P.O. Box 308, Keystone Heights, FL 32656; or email: NJones@clayelectric.com. Clay Electric Cooperative's Board of Trustees will meet at noon July 23 and Aug. 21 in Keystone Heights.

The Clay Electric Cooperative, Inc. _____

Power Line

July 2025

You pick: Quick blink or hours in the dark?

You might be surprised to learn that when your lights blink or your microwave clock resets — especially during a storm or windy weather — it's not a sign that something's wrong. In fact, it usually means the system is working exactly as it should.

Yes, your stove might now think it's midnight. But take comfort knowing your fridge is still running, your air conditioner is blowing cold and you can still finish that load of laundry.

We get it — power blinks can be frustrating. But they're not a sign of poor power quality. They're a sign of a smart, protective response built into the electric system.

Most blinks happen when something — like a tree branch or even an animal — comes into contact with a power line. To prevent damage, the system's circuit breakers act fast, momentarily interrupting the flow of electricity. If the issue clears quickly, power is restored just as fast — often in less than a second. If the obstruction remains, the breaker tries again. Only after repeated attempts will it stop

Continued on back panel

When power's out, we're all working: Facts about restoration

Some of the most common questions we hear at Clay Electric revolve around restoration times. Why do some outages last longer than others? Why are some interruptions so brief?

Summer weather often brings an uptick in outages, with high winds, lightning and wildfires posing threats to our electrical infrastructure. But at Clay Electric, we're no strangers to Mother Nature's challenges — we're always ready to respond when the power goes out. We hope you keep the following in mind should you experience an outage.

1. It's a team effort.

Every Clay Electric employee plays a role in restoring your power. Member services representatives take your calls. Engineers and field staff assess damage. Vegetation crews clear hazards. Dispatchers coordinate logistics. Communicators keep you informed. We all work together quickly and safely to get your lights back on.

2. We assess before we act.

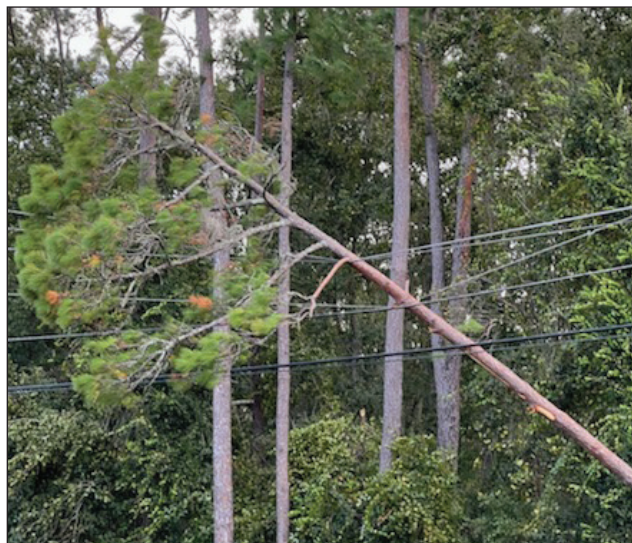
No two outages are the same. Before any repairs begin, crews must evaluate the situation to determine safety risks, necessary material, and how to restore service without disrupting other members.

3. We prioritize based on impact.

First, we address safety concerns and restore critical services like hospitals. Then, we focus on repairs that will bring back power to the largest number of members as quickly as possible.

4. Repairs must follow the power flow.

Our crews often need to restore power step by step, starting with the main lines that serve the most people. We can't restore service to homes at the end of the line until the upstream issues,



like substations and primary lines, are fixed first. Think of it like fixing a water main before a faucet.

5. Some issues are harder to find.

Not all outages have obvious causes. Sometimes, equipment like transformers or underground lines fail in ways that aren't visible. These issues take longer to diagnose and repair, especially in remote or heavily wooded areas.

6. It's dangerous work.

Crews work around high-voltage electricity while also facing wildlife, severe weather, falling trees — and traffic. (If you see a Clay Electric vehicle on the roadside, please slow down for their safety.)

While we work hard to prevent outages, some are unavoidable. If your power goes out, know that your co-op is responding with speed and care. You can report outages via **MyClayElectric** or by calling 1-888-434-9844.

Storm evacuation help for those with special needs

It's vital for members to have a plan in case of an emergency.

If you or someone you know has special needs and requires assistance in case of evacuation, your local government can help. Contact your county emergency management office to learn about shelters in your area.

For members with special needs, visit floridadisaster.org/shelters or call 1-800-342-3557 to register with your county emergency operations center.

Report inoperative outdoor lights

If you are aware of an inoperative or malfunctioning outdoor light on Clay Electric's lines, sign into your **MyClayElectric** account and click on "Submit an Inquiry." Then click on "Other Issues/General Inquiry" followed by "Outdoor Light Problem."

This brings up a webform to report the light issue. You can simply toggle "Send My Current Location" if it is your light you are reporting. If it is another light, you can provide the details in the form. You may also call 1-800-224-4917 to report the problem.

When reporting a problem, you will need to provide the following:

- 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.

This information is printed in compliance with Florida Statute 768.1382.