



'Tis the season...to be prepared

It's been twenty years since Hurricane Iwa and ten years since Hurricane Iniki struck our islands, but many of us can still picture clearly the extensive devastation that resulted. As we head into another hurricane season in Hawaii - the months of June through November - MECO reminds you to be prepared.

Take a few minutes to review your family emergency plan and replenish your home survival kit.



Confirm your emergency plan:

Know where the nearest emergency shelter is. Decide where your family will meet if separated.

Does your home emergency kit include:

- A portable, battery powered radio
- Flashlights, extra batteries
- First-aid kit with special medications
- Manual can opener
- Toothbrushes, soap and other personal hygiene supplies
- Three-to-five day supply of non-perishable food
- Ice chest and frozen ice packs
- Water (minimum two quarts per person per day)
- Masking tape for windows
- Camp stove and fuel

If your power goes out:

- Use flashlights rather than candles
- After a storm, help us to keep phone lines open by tuning in to local radio and TV news updates for reports assessing and repairing major storm damage. Call MECO at **871-7777** only if a power outage in your area is not mentioned or to report a downed power line or sparking electrical equipment.
- Before calling us to report an outage, check your home circuit breakers or fuses to help determine if your outage might be a household problem.
- If your neighbor's power is restored but you're still without power, call us.

More information is available in MECO's [Handbook for Emergency Preparedness](#), which can be found on the website at www.heco.com or call **871-2323** for a copy.



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Save \$\$ and grow your business

Want to help your business save on energy costs? MECO provides cash rebates to make it easier to install energy efficient equipment such as lighting, motors and air conditioning. We can also give you technical advice if you're planning new construction or retrofits. **Marco's Southside Grill, Marmac Ace Hardware, Kahului Florist and the Hale Kamaole condominium** are just a few of the hundreds of Maui businesses that are already enjoying monthly savings. To find out how our energy efficiency programs can help you, call **871-8461**.



Marco DeFanis of Marco's Southside Grill is saving about \$13,000 a year through MECO's energy efficiency programs.



Get renewable energy info on line

- **What is renewable energy and why is it important?**
- **What exciting new renewable energy projects are happening in Hawaii?**
- **How much of Hawaii's imported oil is used to produce electricity?**
- **Which renewable energy resources do HECO, HELCO and MECO use to generate electricity?**
- **How does Hawaii compare with the rest of the nation using renewable energy resources?**

Where can you go to find answers to these questions and get the latest information about renewable energy in Hawaii? Check out the Renewable Energy website at <http://renewables.heco.com>.

You'll also find information on other renewable energy topics. Find out more about HECO's [Sun Power for Schools](#) program, which has so far resulted in solar electric systems installed at 17 Hawaii public schools.

Need more information about a new law that allows the use of net energy metering? If you own an eligible renewable energy generator, you may enter into an agreement with your utility to connect your generator to the utility grid.

All of this and more on the website at <http://renewables.heco.com>.



Beware: Picking fruit can be hazardous

If you grew up in Hawaii, chances are when summer rolls around you can hardly wait to sink your teeth into a sweet juicy mango or a handful of lychee. But before you go after those hard-to-reach delicacies at the top of the tree, be sure to check for overhead utility lines. For your safety, stay at least ten feet away from the lines; keep "fruit pickers," poles and ladders well away from the lines too.



New online energy survey

Interested in a customized energy report for your home and tips tailored to your family's own energy use habits? Check out HECO's new online energy survey, *My Home Energy Check*. Based on your responses to questions on everything from laundry habits to the size and age of your refrigerators, the online program produces a customized report about your household's energy use and an estimate of how much your appliances cost annually to operate. A tailored list of money saving energy tips will also be presented.

To get your energy report, just click on the [My Home Energy Check](#) icon on our home page at www.heco.com.



RECIPE OF THE MONTH

Kona Coffee Bars



- 2/3 cup brown sugar
- 1/2 cup butter or margarine
- 2 eggs
- 1 1/2 tablespoons instant Kona coffee
- 1/2 teaspoon vanilla
- 1 1/4 cups flour
- 1/2 teaspoon baking soda
- 1 cup semi-sweet chocolate pieces
- 3/4 cup chopped pecans

Preheat electric oven to 375°F. Grease an 8 -inch square baking pan. In large bowl of electric mixer, cream sugar and butter. Add eggs, instant coffee, and vanilla; mix well. Sift flour and baking soda; mix into butter mixture. Stir in chocolate and pecans. Pour into prepared pan. Bake for 20 minutes. Cool and cut into bars. Makes 16 servings.

