

Carbon Monoxide

It is a gas produced by fire and burning fuel: gas, propane, oil, wood, charcoal.

Carbon monoxide in the air you breathe replaces oxygen in your blood.

Call 911 and go outside or to a window or door if you have these symptoms:

- Headache
- Weakness
- Dizziness
- Nausea
- Shortness of breath
- Confusion
- Blurred vision
- Loss of consciousness

If a carbon monoxide alarm goes off, go outside or to a window or door.

You can be poisoned by a small amount of CO over a long period of time or by a large amount of CO in a short period of time. Call 911 for help.

Install carbon monoxide alarms in living and sleeping areas, according to manufacturer's instructions.

Test monthly and change batteries yearly or according to manufacturer's instructions.

Safely Use a Generator

Refuel

- Turn off generator and allow it to cool before refueling
- Don't refuel if it is raining
- Don't touch generator with wet hands
- Refuel before going to bed

Fuel Storage

- Store in approved container, clearly labeled
- Store away from fuel burning appliances (hot water heater, laundry), flammable objects and away from living areas
- Store at least 10 feet away from generator

Plug In

- Do not plug generator into an electric outlet to power your house
- Plug appliances into generator or use a heavy duty correct wire gauge outdoor rated extension cord
- Do not run cords under doors which might pinch or compress them

More Safety

- Place a fire extinguisher (minimum size 2A, 10-BC within 10 feet of generator)

Generator Use

- Frequently check for and remove ventilation blocks such as snow

Generator Safety

Prepare for a power outage

It is inevitable. The power will go out.

You don't need a generator, or do you?

It's a big investment.

It generates carbon monoxide.

It powers medical devices, refrigerators, air conditioners & heaters.

Learn the facts.

South Lake
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Choose a Generator

Decide what you need to power.

- Medical device
- Heat or Air Conditioning
- Refrigerator, Stove, Microwave
- Internet, TV, Radio
- A few lights

Add up power requirements. (Check back and sides for a label with this information.)

Consider what you will need running at the same time.

Add startup watts requirement of the biggest user. This is generally 1 to 2X the running watts and should be on device label.

Choose a generator that produces more power than you need. Some appliances and devices lose efficiency over time.

Choose a generator that is quiet and has a fuel tank large enough to power through the night.

Standby Generator

To power the whole house, consider a standby or stationary generator. It should automatically come on when power goes out using your home's gas or propane supply. 5,000 to 7,500 watts is needed to run an average house. Look at generators' rated power, not its maximum power. Running at maximum power will burn out the generator. Call a licensed contractor for advice and installation.

Electrical Medical Devices

Ask physician, manufacturer or retail outlet for information on backup rechargeable batteries. Keep it charged and ready to use. Test periodically. Arrange for a place to go in case battery backup fails. Keep medical device manual with your device. Keep a cell phone with emergency contacts near you.



Install a Generator

- 20 feet from building on a noncombustible surface away from vegetation
- Never use it in the garage
- Exhaust away from home, windows and doors
- Keep it covered from rain
- Use with ground fault circuit interrupter
- Install Spark arrest muffler
- Do NOT plug into home electric outlet.

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- Chipping
- Education
- Reflective house# signs
- Evacuation map
- Neighbors helping neighbors

South Lake Fire Safe Council

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