

Park Place

Block Captain Neighborhood Watch Program

Will you be using a generator in the event of a storm power outage?

Hurricane Safe Operating Tips for Generators

Here are some valuable tips to follow before a storm arrives:

- Set the generator up outside, away from all open windows, including neighbors' windows, to prevent deadly exhaust from entering a home or business.
- Carefully anchor the generator to keep it stable in one location preventing vibration movement.
- Start and check the operation of the generator, your fuel supply and all connecting cords/cables to ensure you have the proper length, gauge and grounding.
- Use a heavy-duty extension cord rated for outdoor use to keep the generator safely outdoors. If an appliance has a three-prong plug, always use a three-prong extension cord.
- Close your windows, doors and install or close your hurricane shutters.
- Connect appliances directly to the generator. Do not wire your generator directly to your breaker or fuse box, because the power you generate may flow back into power lines and cause severe injuries, or even kill a neighbor or utility crew working to restore power.
- Turn off all connected appliances before starting your generator.
- Start your generator and then turn on connected appliances one at a time, never exceeding the generator's rated wattage.
- Never refuel a hot generator or one that is running – hot engine parts or exhaust can ignite gasoline resulting in severe injury and burns.
- Don't touch a generator if you are wet or are standing in water or on damp ground.
- Ensure you have plenty of gas for operation stored safely in gas containers in an outside secure enclosure, not in a garage.
- Don't leave a running generator unattended; turn it off at night and when away from home.