

HSE ALERT # 192

electricity breakdown & generator safety

Follow these tips:

1. Turn off or unplug lights and appliances to prevent a circuit overload when service is restored. Leave few lights on to indicate power has been restored.
2. Protect yourself from carbon monoxide poisoning:
 - **DO NOT** operate generators indoors; the motor emits deadly carbon monoxide gas.
 - **DO NOT** use charcoal to cook indoors. It, too, can cause a buildup of carbon monoxide gas.
 - **DO NOT** use your gas oven to heat your home -- prolonged use of an open oven in a closed house can create carbon monoxide gas.
3. Keep refrigerator and freezer doors closed as much as possible to help reduce food spoilage.



WT-11

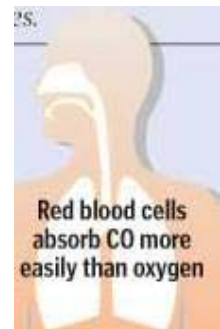


Generator Safety:

Electric generators can provide you with piece of mind and convenience when you are faced with a temporary loss of electric service.

Follow these safety guidelines when operating a generator:

1. Before installing a generator, be sure to properly disconnect from your utility electrical service. If possible, have your generator installed by a qualified electrician.
2. Run generators outside, downwind of structures. NEVER run a generator indoors. Deadly carbon monoxide gas from the generators exhaust can spread throughout enclosed spaces.
3. Fuel spilled on a hot generator can cause an explosion. If your generator has a detachable fuel tank remove it before refilling. If this is not possible, shut off the generator and let it cool before refilling.
4. Do not exceed the rated capacity of your generator. Most of the small, home-use portable generators produce from 350 to 12,000 watts of power. Overloading your generator can damage it; the appliances connected to it, and may cause a fire. Follow the manufacturer's instructions.
5. Keep children away from generators at all times.



“Stay Safe and Be Careful”