

Generator safety: What to know

Protect yourself, your neighbors and our crews

Generators can come in handy if the power goes out during a storm. But it's important to use them properly to keep yourself, your neighbors and our employees safe. **Always follow the manufacturer's instructions when operating a generator** to prevent injury, fire or carbon monoxide poisoning.



S&P

AN ALLETE COMPANY



L-71050

Important generator safety tips:



Be aware of carbon monoxide poisoning

Only use generators outside at least 20 feet away from your home. Do not use near doors, windows and vents, and make sure to direct the exhaust away from your home.



Do not connect directly to your home

Never plug generators into a wall outlet. This causes backfeed, which occurs when power is sent back through your home's electrical lines in reverse. It creates a dangerous level of electricity that puts our crews at risk of severe injury.



Use extension cords properly

Use a heavy-duty extension cord designed for outdoor use to connect appliances to the generator. Make sure the extension cord is free of cuts or tears and has a wattage rating that exceeds the total wattage of items plugged in.