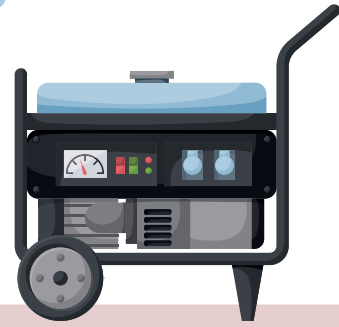


# CONSIDERING A GENERATOR?

Here are some important safety and use tips.

Portable generators are an important tool for many Chelan County residents if the power goes out.

*But, if not used right, they pose an extreme danger for your family, your neighbors and Chelan PUD line crews.*



## Select the right generator for your needs

Portable generators are not intended to power your entire home, so you'll need to identify the things you absolutely can't live without during an outage, like a freezer, well pump, or medical device. Calculate how much electricity those items need by checking the nameplate or owner's manual. Keep in mind that generators should not run continuously at more than 80% of rated capacity.

The safest way to have emergency power is through a permanently installed stationary generator. If you are unsure which option is right for you, consult with a licensed electrician.



**Fridge or Freezer:**  
2,200 starting watts



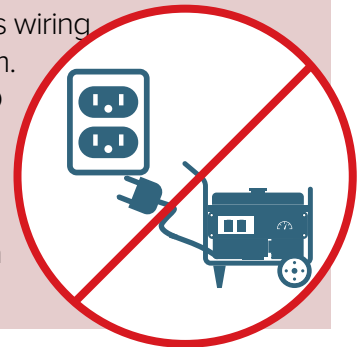
**Well pump:** 1,400 to  
2,100 starting watts.

## Protect yourself and workers. Plug appliances **DIRECTLY** into the generator.

**Do NOT plug the generator into an electrical outlet in your home or through the electrical panel.** If you do, electricity can “backfeed” through your meter and into powerlines, causing a severe safety hazard to the line crews working to restore your power.

If you need to run a hardwired appliance, consider installing a stationary generator and a transfer switch, which disconnects the home's wiring system from the PUD's system.

**You must work with the PUD and obtain an electrical permit and approval through Washington State Labor and Industries prior to installing a transfer switch.**



## Operate outdoors

Exhaust from generators contains high concentrations of carbon monoxide – a poison that cannot be seen or smelled and can kill you in minutes. **Never place your generator inside the house, in a garage or carport, or any fully or partially enclosed area where fumes could build up.** Instead, find a location that is as far from your home as possible (**at least 20 feet**) and point the exhaust away from any nearby doors or windows.



## Run your generator safely

- Make sure your generator is properly grounded.
- Only use heavy-duty extension cords that are rated for both outdoor-use and the right amperage required for your appliances.
- Keep your generator dry. Never run your generator in rainy or wet conditions. If necessary, protect it under a tarp or canopy, ensuring proper air flow.
- Turn your generator off and let it cool before refueling. Any spills on a hot engine may ignite.
- Inspect and maintain your generator regularly.



For more power outage information and safety tips, visit [www.chelanpud.org](http://www.chelanpud.org) and click on the “Outage” button on the home page