



# GENERATOR SAFETY



**Please shut off the main circuit breaker(s) of all the house(s) or building(s) that are connected to your generator.**

*This will prevent a "back feed" of power from your generator unit into the Island Wide Power System. Your actions will prevent serious injury or death to GPA's line crews who are working on or near power lines.*





If installed and operated correctly, use of standby or portable electric generators poses little danger, but improper installation or use could be dangerous and even deadly. Incorrect generator use can lead to carbon monoxide (CO) poisoning, electric shock or electrocution and fire. Follow the directions from the operator's manual supplied with the generator.

**Never try to power a house/building wiring by plugging the generator into a wall outlet, a practice known as "back feeding".**

*It can lead to electrocution of utility workers or neighbors served by the same utility transformer. The only safe way to connect a generator to a house/building wiring is to have a qualified electrician install a power transfer switch.*



## **Connecting the Generator**

- *Use only safety-tested, shop-type electrical cords designed and rated for heavier, outdoor use to connect appliances.*
- *Turn off or unplug all appliances and lights before you begin operating the portable generator. Once the generator is running, turn your appliances and lights on one at a time to avoid overloading the unit.*



## Placement of the Generator

- *Never use a portable generator indoors.*
- *Place the generator in a dry, outside location.*
- *Place the generator away from windows, doors, and vents that could allow CO to come indoors*
- *To avoid electrocution, keep the generator dry. Do not use in rain or wet conditions.*
- *Operate on a dry surface under an open canopy-like structure. Make sure your hands are dry before touching the generator.*



## **Use and Storage of Generator Fuel**

- *Turn the generator off and let it cool before refueling. Gasoline spilled on hot engine parts could ignite.*
- *Store fuel in an approved safety can outside of living areas, preferably in a locked area or other protected area.*
- *If you spill fuel or do not seal the container properly, invisible vapors can travel along the ground and be ignited by arcs from electric switches in the appliance.*
- *Use the type of fuel recommended in the generator instructions or on its label.*



## Shutting Down the Generator

- *Before shutting down a generator, turn off and unplug all appliances and equipment being powered by the generator.*



Stay tuned on social media for more information.

