

Prevent Winter Blackouts with a Backup Generator Installation

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Families in New Jersey without home backup power are advised to plan for managing winter electrical outages.

Electricity is so seamless and silent that we can forget we're usually using it around the clock almost every day of our lives. So, it's easy to mistakenly assume electricity will just always be there at the flip of a switch, no matter what occurs. But, of course, the power can go off at any time due to a utility company or public grid problem or an approaching storm. New Jersey residents should obtain a power generator for home use or prepare to manage their families' needs without electricity. We'll examine the options below.

Managing Your Home in New Jersey Power Outages

With *no backup power generator* in a New Jersey electrical outage, families should expect to be quickly in a very cold, uncomfortable, and potentially dangerous living conditions. With a *portable power generator*, residents fare much better. They can keep warm and cook and have hot water. With a *permanent backup generator*, families can enjoy all the usual comforts in their homes without interruption even during lengthy power outages.

For Outages in NJ Without a Power Generator

Property damage from frozen water pipes and severe health effects of potentially dangerous low temperatures can occur in our extreme northeastern climate. Below are some tips to help with living through a winter power outage in NJ without a generator and keep as warm, comfortable, and safe as possible.

Prepare in Advance for a Power Outage:

- Purchase flashlights and battery-operated lanterns, and build up a stock of batteries.
- Stock up on non-perishable foods.
- Keep extra blankets and abundant warm clothing.
- Have a bag packed for each member of the family in case it becomes necessary to relocate if temperatures are forecasted to drop dangerously low.
- If you plan to use candles, purchase safe carriers with protective glass globes, and review the rules for the safe use of candles at home. Candles are not recommended.
- Practice manually opening your electric garage door (if applicable).
- Practice your plans for managing daily functions with your family, to help ensure that everyone will be safe and as comfortable as possible.

During the Power Outage:

- Do not use a gas stove or barbecue grill as a home heating appliance.
- Keep the refrigerator and freezer closed during the first hours of the power outage to help perishable food last longer.
- Pack coolers full of snow to keep perishable items cold.
- Wear layers of loose clothing for increased warmth. (Use mittens instead of gloves.)
- Move seating furniture away from windows.
- Have all family members stay together in one small room, if practical.

How to Prepare for Winter Storm Power Outage

There are several common options for dealing with power outages in your New Jersey home. Some people may be able to make their lives work well enough with candles, flashlights, battery lanterns, a propane camp stove, and a bag of ice in a cooler.

But if your family needs uninterrupted use of all your home appliances and electronics, hot water, heat, and air conditioning, etc., consider using a power generator. These are the two types of generators commonly used for residential power outages:

Portable Generator Portable generators are compact for easy mobility. These units are usually gas-powered and are turned on manually during a power outage. They're usually used to provide electricity to a few essentials, such as the refrigerator, some lighting circuits, portable heaters, and selected electronic devices simultaneously. Portable generators can provide great relief to families, but they must be used cautiously to prevent carbon monoxide poisoning. This equipment is not for use inside a house, garage, or other enclosed spaces.

Backup Generator Systems For families who need much more wattage from their power generators, installing a backup generator for house use (standby generators) offers an uninterrupted source of power. Professional installation is necessary. So, plan for installation time and costs. Backup generators are connected to the existing natural gas or propane line for your home. The generator turns on automatically within seconds after the power goes out in the home. Backup generators power more appliances, HVAC systems, water heater, stove, clothes dryer, home electronics, etc.

Best Generator for Power Outage at Home in New Jersey

For the most skilled residential electrician Southampton New Jersey offers, DK Electrical Solutions master electricians install state-of-the-art backup generators to keep your home warm and fully functioning through even the longest power outages.

For information about a backup generator installation in your home, call DK Electrical Solutions at (609) 796-4177, or contact us here on our website today!
