

# Standby Generators

- Power outages are inconvenient, costly, and potentially dangerous.
- Standby generators supply electricity to your home during a power outage.
- Units are available in a range of sizes to meet the electricity needs of almost any home.



## A Costly Problem for Homeowners

The number of reported power outages across the country has been elevated since 2010, often exceeding 3,500. The reason for the increase is an aging electric infrastructure, a growing population and more severe weather<sup>1</sup>. When power is out for an extended period of time, food can spoil, basements can flood, pipes can burst - the damage can be costly.

## Automatic Protection

Homeowners don't need to fear the dark, they can protect themselves and their homes by installing standby generators. The generator is fueled by the home's natural gas supply and wired into the household electrical system. As soon as the power goes out, an automatic transfer switch takes you off of the utility feed and engages the generator. Once the utility power comes back on, the transfer switch connects automatically back to utility power.

## A Range of Sizes to Meet Your Needs

Generators are available in a range of sizes, depending on your power needs. Systems can be designed to power the entire house or just the areas designated by the homeowner.

The size of your home and number of rooms or appliances you need to power are important factors in determining what size generator will be required. Your utility representative can help you find the system that best meets your needs.

## Standby generators:

- Are permanently installed outside the home. They are about the same size as a large air-conditioner unit.
- That are fueled with natural gas are the only systems that do not require fuel storage.
- Run continuously during outages, whether it is for a few hours or a few days.
- Are recommended by the American Red Cross as a safer alternative to portable generators.
- Provide around-the-clock protection for your home, whether you are there or away.
- Require very little maintenance.

<sup>1</sup> Blackout Tracker, 2015 report



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