



Township Emergency Generator Loan Policy

The Township has access to a limited number of generators for loan to residents during extended power outages (8 hours or more) caused by severe storms. These generators are primarily reserved for those residents who rely on life-saving medical equipment requiring power to function. This policy outlines the procedure for requesting generators and the priority system for their distribution. As always, if you are experiencing a medical emergency, please call 911.

Priority

Given the limited number of generators available, the Township has established a tier system based on need. Limited exceptions may apply.

Tier 1: Residents who depend on electricity to operate life-saving medical equipment.

Tier 2: Senior citizen residents on a case-by-case basis, based on the availability of generators.

Distribution

In the event of an extended power outage, please contact the Robbinsville Township Police Department non-emergency phone number at 609-259-3900 to request to borrow a generator.

Generators will be distributed on a first-come, first-served basis to residents with life-saving medical equipment, in accordance with their assigned tier. Upon request, a member of the Township's Office of Emergency Management Team will visit your home to assess the need.

Once the need is established a generator will be delivered and installed by one of the Township's Department of Public Works employees.

Residents are responsible for the safe and proper use of the generators while in their possession.

Instructions and information on the safe use and placement of generators will be provided upon delivery. These documents must be signed by the person 18 years of age or older receiving the generator.



Return

Arrangements must be made for generators to be picked up within two (2) regular business hours after power is restored. If power is restored outside regular business hours, please arrange for pick up by 8:30 a.m. the following day to allow other residents in need to use them. You can schedule a pickup by calling the Township's Department of Public Works at 609-259-0422.

Responsibilities

Robbinsville Township: Ensure a fair and transparent process for the distribution of generators.

Residents: Read all instructions including the page entitled "GENERATOR DANGERS" and use the generators responsibly. Arrange for returning the generator promptly after use. Your cooperation is vital for the health and safety of our community and the continued success of this program.

Contact Information

For questions or assistance, please contact the Robbinsville Township Police Department, Office of Emergency Management at 609-259-3900.



EMERGENCY GENERATOR PROGRAM

To be filled out by Office of Emergency Management

Date _____

Name _____

Address _____

Phone Number _____ Alternate Phone Number _____

Make _____ Model _____ Serial# _____

Cord Supplied: Yes _____ No _____

_____ **I have received and read the document titled “Generator Dangers” and understand its contents. By signing below, I agree to indemnify and hold harmless Robbinsville Township and any official, agent, or employee thereof from any and all claims arising out of or related to my participation in the Emergency Generator Program.**

Signature _____ **Date** _____

Print Name _____

Date Returned _____

GENERATOR DANGERS

Using a portable generator can be helpful during power outages, but it also comes with several risks and dangers. Here are the main hazards associated with portable generator use:

Carbon Monoxide (CO) Poisoning:

****DO NOT BRING THE GENERATOR INTO THE HOUSE****

Generators emit CO, a colorless and odorless gas that can be lethal if inhaled in large quantities. Running a generator indoors or in enclosed spaces can lead to CO buildup, posing serious health risks. Opening doors and windows or using fans will NOT prevent carbon monoxide build up in your home. Keep the generator outdoors and away from doors, windows or vents that could allow carbon monoxide to seep indoors.

Carbon monoxide from generators can rapidly lead to serious illness or death. If you or someone in the home start to experience symptoms of CO poisoning, including headache, fatigue, shortness of breath, nausea and/or dizziness, go to the fresh air immediately and follow up with medical attention if necessary. If you or someone in the home experience serious symptoms, such as mental confusion, vomiting, loss of muscular coordination, and/or loss of consciousness, seek immediate medical attention.

Electrical Hazards:

Improper use of generators can lead to electrical shocks or electrocution. This can occur if the generator is not properly grounded or if it comes in contact with water.

Plug appliances directly into the generator or use a heavy-duty outdoor rated extension cord that is rated (in watts or amps) at least equal to the sum of the connected appliance loads. Check the cord for cuts or tears and that the plug has all three prongs, especially a grounding pin.

NEVER power your home by plugging a generator into wall outlet - an unsafe practice known as “back feeding.” This extremely dangerous practice creates an electrocution risk to utility workers and neighbors served by the same transmitter.

Fire Risks:

DO NOT SMOKE NEAR THE GENERATOR

Portable generators use flammable fuel (usually gasoline), which can ignite if not handled properly.

Overloading the generator can cause overheating and potentially start a fire.

Fuel Storage and Handling:

Spills can create fire hazards, and fuel should be stored in appropriate containers and away from living areas. Storing fuel improperly or too close to the generator increases the risk of fire.

Generators will be hot when running.

Do not allow children or pets within 10 feet of the generator.

Mechanical Issues:

DO NOT ATTEMPT TO FIX A GENERATOR MALFUNCTION

If you encounter any issues with the generator not working, please do not attempt to fix it yourself. Instead, contact the Department of Public Works at 609-259-0422. For after-hours assistance, call the Robbinsville Township Police Department at 609-259-3900.