

# LOSS CONTROL BULLETIN

## Homeowner Safety

### *Generator Safety*

Generators can provide an excellent source of temporary power. They can be used to ensure your home, farm or business functions properly during a power outage or can simply be used for recreation on a camping trip. No matter what the reason, it is important to consider how to use a generator properly as well as the hazards that come with a generator.

**Generator Safety:** Before operating a generator it is important that you consider the following topics.

- Carefully read and understand the generator's operating manual.
- Make sure all generators are kept outside of the home or building while in use and that there is proper ventilation.
- Make sure the generator is shut off and has cooled before attempting to refuel.
- Clean-up fuel spills and allow fumes to dissipate prior to re-starting your generator.
- Keep generators away from doors, windows and vents as they could allow carbon monoxide back into the building.
- Install a carbon monoxide detector(s) in your home.
- Store all gasoline products outside and keep them away from flammables.
- Have a fire extinguisher in close proximity to the generator.
- Hard-wiring a generator directly to your home's wiring should only be done by a qualified electrician.
- Avoid overloading the generator.
- Do not attempt to plug your generator directly into your electrical wiring system. This can "back feed" power into the utility lines which could cause injury or death to utility workers.
- Use caution when around a generator. Mufflers and other parts of the generator can become extremely hot while in use.

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- Keep children and animals away from generators at all times.
- Only use outdoor extension cords that are rated to handle the electrical load.
- Do not run extension cords where they are susceptible to vehicle traffic or in high foot traffic areas.
- Protect extension cord as they run through doors or windows as they are prone to being pinched or damaged.



No one wants to think about suffering a loss. In the unfortunate event you do have a loss, our **ANPAC Five Star Claim Service**<sup>®</sup> is designed to provide assurance and confidence to our policyholders throughout the claims process.

**24-Hour Claims Hotline 1-800-333-2860**

References: <http://www.consumerenergycenter.org/tips/generators.html>  
<http://dhs.wisconsin.gov/eh/Air/fs/generators.htm>  
<http://www.usfa.dhs.gov/downloads/pdf/fswy24.pdf>.