



Alternate Power Supply

Generators

Practicality & Danger

Generators are a practical source of backup power in the event of an outage. However, if they are not wired and installed correctly they can be dangerous to you and to anyone who works on the power lines and the system.



Improper wiring can cause electricity to feed backwards through the system resulting in electric shock causing injury and/or death to someone working on the lines. Generators must be grounded properly and have a transfer switch.

Check it Out

If you are unsure whether your current backup power supply is installed correctly, or whether it is capable of servicing your current needs, contact Battle River Power Coop for an assessment.

Battle River Power Coop wants to make sure its member-owners are informed regarding the use of backup generators. With more farms, acreages and businesses using generators as an alternate power supply, it is important to ensure the safety of the Coop's members and employees.

Before Installing a Generator

- ✓ Determine the wattage or load of the equipment you wish to run.
- ✓ Consider the startup power required; it is greater than the running power and needs to be considered.
- ✓ Call Battle River Power Coop for advice and a schematic.
- ✓ Obtain a permit.
- ✓ Have a qualified electrician install a transfer switch per the Canadian Electrical Code. Battle River Power Coop's electrical department can provide that expertise.

Before using a Portable Generator

- ✓ Ensure that the load does not exceed the capacity.
- ✓ Never operate indoors due to danger of CO poisoning.
- ✓ If using an extension cord, select one that can handle the load and keep it out of the way to avoid tripping on it.
- ✓ Store fuel safely according to the National Fire Code.



Additional Resources Available on the Web

Electrical Safety International <http://www.esfi.org/>

Alberta Municipal Affairs http://www.municipalaffairs.alberta.ca/cp_electrical_standata
---Section 10 - Grounding and Bonding CEC-10 (PDF for download)