



According to the U.S. EIA, major hurricanes accounted for 80% of all grid downtime hours in 2025, pushing power outages to a 10-year high.

SAY HELLO TO YOUR NEW HURRICANE PREPARATION MANUAL.



Data sourced from the U.S. Energy Information Administration.

Say hello to your new hurricane preparation manual.

From hurricanes to severe storms, nearly every region of the U.S. has experienced power outages and resulted in an elevated demand for backup generators. In fact, major suppliers like Generac are barely keeping up with market needs.

While home standby generators are powerful solutions to combat the power outages from natural disasters, they also require routine professional check-up and maintenance.

Don't let storm alerts stress you out ever again.

This guide will help you prepare for the worst hurricanes and storms with our pre- and post-storm checklists. From home safety essentials to your standby generator maintenance, we've got you covered.

Stay safe,
Cannondale Generators



BEFORE THE STORM

When it comes to storms and hurricanes, there are three major scenarios you need to prepare yourself for to make sure your home and loved ones are protected:

1. Receiving/Sending external communications.
2. Leaving your home.
3. Sheltering in place.

Receiving/Sending External Communications

No matter how brutal a storm is, it is important to be able to maintain external communication. Whether you are trying to get in touch with family and friends, get news updates, or contact emergency services, make sure you have the necessary tools to preserve power for your electronic devices.

Leaving Your Home

If you find yourself in the middle of a severe storm, it may be dangerous to stay in your home even if your standby generator is providing power.

Write down the names and contact numbers of emergency contacts and make sure your vehicle is fully fueled and/or charged. Your car can be a safe place to warm up or cool down and charge your devices, but it may also be necessary in emergency situations.

Remember, if you or your family need more comfortable conditions to wait out a power outage, you can always call your local fire or police department or local Red Cross chapter to locate an emergency shelter.

Sheltering in Place

If you need to shelter in place to wait out a storm, it's important to stay comfortable with the appropriate food and medical supplies.

For homes without standby generators, [The Federal Emergency Management Agency \(FEMA\)](#) recommends having at least a three-day supply of non-perishable emergency food in your home and one gallon of drinking water per day per person (and pet).

It is also recommended to stock up on medical supplies for two weeks. This includes everything from prescription and over-the-counter medications to batteries for medical devices and administration supplies, such as syringes for those with diabetes.

Some over-the-counter medications to keep on hand include: aspirin, non-aspirin pain relievers, antacid, anti-diarrhea medication, and laxatives.

Beyond food and medical supplies, it is important to know when you are in danger from chemicals. If your generator is not to code or was not installed properly, carbon monoxide may get into their home. Even the wind could blow some in!

Detectors are a great way to ensure that you will have all the information you need to make an informed decision about whether to stay in your home or not. That's also why it is important to check your generator before a storm.

If you have a home standby generator, here is a pre-storm maintenance checklist:

- Listen to the generator exercise.

Your generator runs on an automatic exercising schedule. If you have heard your unit run through this regularly, you can be sure that it is in proper operating condition.

- Check oil levels.

Each generator model has a different guideline on how often to change or add oil. You can check your standby generator's oil levels using your remote monitoring device or by checking the appropriate panel.

- Reset any faults.

Your generator's fault lamp may illuminate for a variety of reasons. It is helpful to know how to reset these faults to keep your generator working properly. ([See our video to learn how to reset a fault](#)).

- Make sure your remote monitoring accessory is linked.

With [remote monitoring](#), you can easily access information such as current operating status and even see upcoming maintenance reminders or alerts. Make sure your accessory is connected to your unit.

PRE-STORM CHECKLIST:

- Charge your cell phones, laptops, power banks, and other electronic devices.
- Write down the names, addresses, and contact information of emergency contacts.
- Make sure your vehicle is fully fueled or charged.
- Stock up on essential food and medical supplies.
- Equip your home with surge protectors and carbon monoxide detectors.
- Listen to your generator exercise.
- Check your standby generator's oil levels.
- Reset any faults on your generator.
- Link your remote monitoring accessories to your generator.

AFTER THE STORM

Once you have weathered the storm, it is important to inspect your home and its surroundings to make sure that everything is safe for you and your family.

Remember to stay away from downed power lines and check any electronic appliances for damage. Clear your property of any mess caused by the storm, especially the area surrounding your home standby generator.

Depending on the length of the storm, your generator oil will likely need to be replaced and maintenance will have to be performed to load test the battery and check the propane levels¹.

Cannondale Generators is specifically equipped to service your generator after a storm and ensure that your home generator is in good condition and safe for future use. You can contact us at 203-762-2608 or request a service visit on our website.

¹*Not applicable for natural gas standby generators.

REQUEST A SERVICE VISIT

POST-STORM CHECKLIST:

- Stay away from downed power lines.
- Check electronic appliances for damage.
- Clear property of any mess caused by the storm.
(e.g. branches, trash cans, recycling bins, etc.)
- Call Cannondale Generators to service your home standby generator.
 - Check and change the oil in your generator.
 - Load test the battery. (Watch this video to learn how).
 - Check your propane levels*.



YOUR PREMIER BACKUP GENERATOR COMPANY FOR 30 YEARS

Incorporated in 1990, Cannondale Generators was started by Paul Bonomo, a lifelong resident of Wilton, Connecticut. Today, Cannondale Generators is run by Paul's three sons and has grown since then into one of the top-rated, best generator companies in Westchester, and Fairfield counties.

Whether you're a homeowner looking for a full installation or a contractor seeking a reliable supplier, when it comes to a home generator company you can trust, Cannondale Generators is a partner you can rely on.

VISIT CANNONDALE GENERATORS

Over **8,200** Generators Professionally Installed

Over **6,000** Maintenance Customers Served

Generac Generators Power Pro Premier Dealer

Certified, Experienced Generator Technicians

Top-Rated Customer Service and Generators

CONTACT CANNONDALE FOR YOUR HOME & BUSINESS

- Cummins
- Generac
- Kohler
- Mobile Link™ Remote Monitoring
- OmniMetrix Remote Monitoring System
- Maintenance Plans