



# H S E

HEALTH SAFETY ENVIRONMENTAL



Alert #: SA 19-24

Date: July 8th, 2024

## *Generator Usage During Hurricane Season*

With hurricane season coming into effect, it is important to understand how to be safe with one of the most important tools to have during a hurricane: generators. There are many precautions one must take in order to properly use a generator so everyone using it remains safe – even after hurricane seasons is over.

One of the most – if not the most – important safety measures one can take in order to safely use generators are to make sure that they are not being used in any form of indoor area (e.g., garages, basements, crawlspaces, inside home, and so on). The main reason for keeping generators outside is due to carbon monoxide, an odorless, colorless gas that is produced by generators which can pose as a harm to anyone living in the affected household. Along with this, even if the generators are placed outside, it is important to make sure that generators are kept away from any passageways that carbon monoxide can pass through (e.g., windows, doors, ventilation, and so on).

### **ADDITIONAL SAFETY MEASURES:**

- Keep generators 20 ft. away from your home at minimum.
- Turn the generator off before fueling, giving it 15-20 minutes to cool off.
- Never try to power the house wiring by plugging in the generator to a wall outlet. Use a heavy-duty, outdoor extension cord.
- Do not use generators in rain or any other wet conditions.
- Keep a fire extinguisher nearby in preparation of malfunctions.
- Get a carbon monoxide monitor for your home.



***Report all incidents immediately to the GIS Hotline 1-855-543-5163.***



**SAFETY ALERT**