



## How to choose a generator that best meets your needs

By Bob Judd

If you are considering a backup generator there are important issues for you to consider. Most people think of using a portable generator, which is fueled by gasoline. Portable generators are perfect for camping trips, construction sites, special events and other outdoor use, but are not the best option for home power outages. Instead, you should consider a standby generator.

Home owners who will benefit the most from a standby unit are those who rely on a well pump for water, have electric heat or a finished basement that could be damaged if the sump pump stops working. If you rely on oxygen to breath or simply don't want the inconvenience of being without electricity, a standby generator alleviates your worries.

The great thing about standby units is they're automatic and have a permanent fuel source, so will start-up quickly whether you're home or away (think sump pump). They are quieter, much safer—and you don't have to mess with gas or hooking it up at 3 AM in 10-degree weather.

On the other hand, portable generators do serve a purpose and we have eight different types available. We can wire the generator to work with a manual transfer switch so all you have to do is start it up and manually transfer certain circuits. But always run it outdoors, never in a garage or enclosed area!

We have five automatic air-cooled standby generators available with several transfer switch options, from whole-house protection to our smallest unit which protects up to eight household circuits. The choice is yours...

The Wire Guys by Arc Electric are Northeast PA's generator experts. Call to schedule a visit at our new Generator Store where we can explain all of the features, do's, dont's and financing options. Maybe we can add your name to our list of over 170 satisfied customers!