PERSONAL GENERATOR MAINTENANCE TIPS

*Have a generator emergency at your home? Don’t hesitate! Call 911 immediately if you feel that you are in danger!*

**Fresh oil helps!**
- Changing the oil frequently helps your generator stay functional.
- Most new generators need their oil changed within just 30 HOURS of use!
- After the first oil change, the oil should be changed every 100 hours of use, or every year at the very least.
- Make sure you follow the manufacturer’s guidelines for what type of oil to use!

**Take care of spark plugs and filters!**
- Without these, your generator will be useless!
- Change your spark plug and air filter every 200 hours of use, or every year at the very least.
- Having a new spark plug AND a clean air filter will assure that the engine runs more efficiently, and extend the lifespan of your generator!

**Store your generator properly!**
- If you’re putting away your generator for a long time without using it, DRAIN THE FUEL FROM THE TANK!
  1. Start by adding gas stabilizer to the fuel, and run the generator for about 15 mins
  2. Let the engine cool down, then start and run the engine again until it runs out of gas and shuts down on its own.
  3. Or, if there is a lot of fuel in the tank, you can siphon the gas out. Be sure to use a siphon that is NOT metal to avoid static shock in the tank!

**Charge your battery!**
- If your generator has an electric start, be sure that the battery is charged! If you can, plug the battery into a small trickle charger to keep it fresh when you need it during extended power outages.

**Be ready BEFORE Hurricane Season!**
- To keep your generator running smoothly, start it and run it for a few minutes every 30 days!
- Perform all maintenance checks BEFORE Hurricane Season.
- Stock up on oil, oil filters, spark plugs, and gasoline BEFORE Hurricane Season!