Consumer Newsletter

Spring/Summer 2022

Propane Living

How to Choose the Right Propane Generator



Having ready access to electrical power is important for a family's comfort and security. Portable, standby, and off-grid generators individually have applications that make sense for different kinds of residences.

Portable generators usually cost the least, and they are fueled and started by hand before they supply electricity. Many portable generators are fueled by gasoline; however, propane-fueled portable generators are also an option.

Standby generators are permanently installed outside the home. They are available with an automatic transfer switch that activates the generator in an outage, meaning owners have to change few of their daily routines. Standby generators also operate much more quietly than portable generators. An owner can talk normally while standing relatively close to an active standby generator.

Meanwhile, **off-grid generators** work nicely for homes and facilities operating independently from the main electric grid. Some of these units can be combined with renewable-energy sources, such as solar panels or wind, and a battery. In those cases, the generator will only activate to recharge the battery bank when it becomes depleted.

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Propane Cylinder Safety



Transporting Propane Cylinders

- ALWAYS transport and store a cylinder in a secure and upright position so it will not fall, shift, or roll.
- NEVER keep a filled cylinder inside a hot vehicle.
- ALWAYS place the cylinder in a well-ventilated area of the vehicle.
- ALWAYS proceed directly to your destination and immediately remove the cylinder from your vehicle.

Storing Propane Cylinders

- NEVER store or place a propane cylinder indoors or in an enclosed area such as a basement, garage, shed, or tent.
- NEVER store or place a spare cylinder under or near a barbecue grill or other heat source.
- DO NOT smoke or have any ignition sources such as flames or spark producing electrical tools in the area while handling or transporting cylinders.

Roasted Poblano Burger with Pepper Jack Cheese



Ingredients

2 lbs. Ground Beef
Kosher salt
Freshly ground black pepper
2 large poblano peppers
2 Tbsp. olive oil
8 slices pepper jack cheese
½ cup chipotle mayonnaise
8 2 oz whole-grain hamburger buns
8 slices curly leaf lettuce

Preparation

- 1. Preheat oven to 375°F. Place poblano pepper on a baking sheet. Rub each pepper with 1 Tbsp olive oil. Season with salt and pepper. Roast in the oven until the skin of the pepper is blackened, about 15-20 minutes. Remove from the oven, place in a bowl, cover with plastic wrap and steam for 15 minutes. Remove from the bowl, peel, remove the stems and seeds and coarsely chop.
- Brush grates with cooking oil then preheat gas grill to 400°F. Shape into eight ¾-inch thick patties. Season each side with salt and pepper. Make a small indention in the center of the burger with your thumb.
- 3. Place burgers on grill and cook about 4 minutes per side for rare, another minute per side for each increasing stage of doneness. Top each burger with a slice of cheese the last 2 minutes of cooking time.
- 4. Evenly spread 1 Tbsp. chipotle mayonnaise on top and bottom of each bun. Place burgers in buns and top with chopped poblano pepper and lettuce.

Recipe courtesy of: Texas Beef Council www.beeflovingtexans.com

How to Choose the Right Propane Generator

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The power output needed for a standby generator is determined by the size of the home, the circuits connected to the generator, and how the homeowner plans to use the backup power. The generator can provide whole-house backup or power for key appliances such as airconditioning, heating, water heating and wells.

Some standby generators come with load-shedding circuits. If a generator becomes overloaded, a loadshedding system can disconnect a device such as a water heater or stove to bring the demand down. This technology allows customers to purchase a smaller generator than they would otherwise need in order to provide whole-house backup.



Photo & article compliments of Generac.

A manufacturer, such as Generac, can offer an onsite sizing tool through its dealers. A representative will walk through the homeowner's house, explain what can be backed up and what size the generator needs to be.

A propane standby generator is a great option for a home during a power outage. Propane does not degrade like gasoline. It can sit in the tank for a number of years and still be as effective as the day the tank was filled. Propane also does not oxidize, and it will not varnish or gum the fuel system of the generator engine. Additionally, it is a clean fuel that reduces emissions when compared with gasoline, diesel or E85 gasoline.

Whether a homeowner chooses a portable, standby or off-grid generator, they are taking an important step toward ensuring the resiliency of power in their home, and their family's comfort.

Learn more about generators at https://www.propanecounciloftexas.org/propanegenerators.

2022 Propane Appliance Rebate Program is Open

This spring, the Propane Council of Texas (ProCOT) launched their Texas Saves with Propane Appliance Rebate Program for 2022. This rebate program will assist Texas homeowners and business owners save on select new propane appliances.

Through the Texas Saves with Propane Appliance Rebate Program, Texas homeowners and businesses that purchase and have installed qualifying new propane appliances can earn rebates of \$300 on a new propane furnace or boiler and \$300 on a new propane water heater. There is a \$600 cap per Texas household or commercial business location.



To receive a rebate, Texas consumers just need to contact their local propane provider to start the rebate application process. Appliance rebate application package must be submitted by a propane provider licensed in Texas. A qualifying proof of purchase dated on and after January 1, 2022, and a propane safety inspection by your propane provider are required.

Learn more about the program and check the status of 2022 propane appliance rebate funds with the live rebate calculator at *https://txsaveswithpropane.com*.

Questions? Email rebates@propanecounciloftexas.org, call 512-883-9925 or contact your Texas propane provider.



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