

How to use a generator safely during an outage

One of the great things about the modern American electric grid is that power almost always flows when we need it. Given our dependence on electricity, it's understandable why portable generators are popular when the power goes out and stays out for a while.

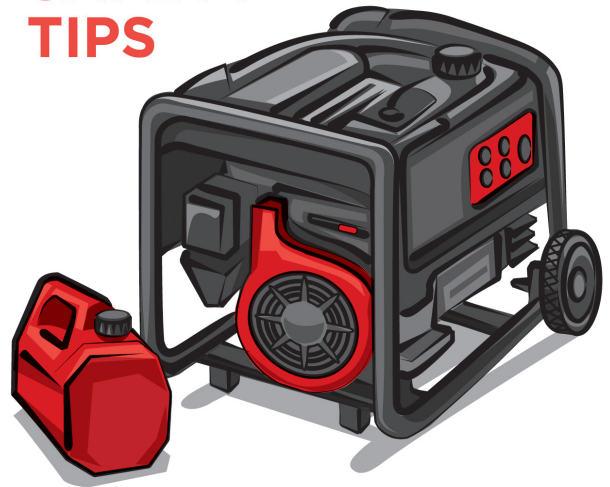
But generators can cause more harm than good if not used properly. Here are a few safety tips to remember when using generators during a power outage. These tips can help protect your family as well as our linemen who are working to restore your power.

First, never, ever plug a portable generator directly into one of your home's outlets—unless you have had a licensed electrician install a "transfer switch" in your home. If you don't have a transfer switch, power provided by the generator can "backfeed" along power lines, which can electrocute a lineman working on those lines. In addition, portable generators create carbon monoxide, the odorless, colorless gas that can quickly become deadly if the generator isn't exhausted outside. Attached garages with an open door don't count—the carbon monoxide can still seep indoors and poison inhabitants. Generators must go outside in a dry area, which might mean you'll need to rig a canopy to protect it from precipitation at a safe distance from your home's windows, doors, and vents. How far is a safe distance? Even 15 feet can be too close.

Other things to keep in mind: Plug appliances directly into the generator using heavy-duty, outdoor-rated extension cords, but don't overload it. Follow the manufacturer's instructions for maximum load. Shut off the generator before refueling, or a fire could start—and it's a good idea to have a fully charged fire extinguisher nearby, just in case.

Safety is a top priority at Southwest Rural Electric for our employees and consumer-members alike. Remember, you can report outages by using the SWRE app or by calling 1-800-256-7973. You can also view our 24-hour outage map on our app or website.

GENERATOR SAFETY TIPS



Never connect a standby generator into your home's electrical system. There are only two safe ways to connect a standby generator to your equipment.

Stationary Generator:

An approved generator transfer switch, which keeps your house circuits separate from the electric co-op, should be installed by a professional.

Portable Generator:

Plug appliances directly into the outlet provided on the generator.

Set up and run your generator in a well-ventilated area outside the home. Make sure it's out and away from your garage, doors, windows and vents. The carbon monoxide generated is **deadly**.

Use a heavy-duty extension cord to connect electric appliances to the outlet on the generator.

Start the generator first **before** connecting appliances.

Source: SafeElectricity.org

For tips on how to select the right generator for you, see our Local Pages content in this month's Texas Coop Power magazine.

SWRE Manager's Report

SWRE's Most Genuine Employee

Some of you may remember my February column in which I mentioned using this section as a place to highlight a few of our many excellent SWRE employees. This is so you, our members, can understand how our employees contribute to our coop through service and depth of character. In March we highlighted Joe Wynn for his many years of service, in April we highlighted our lineman Austin Huff, and this month we are highlighting an employee who consistently brightens everyone's day.

By birth his name is Earnsby McGee, Jr. but everyone knows him as "Slick." When we tried to uncover the meaning behind this nickname we had lots of different responses.

"I think it is because he is so sneaky. His work is so efficient, yet you never see him break a sweat!" said Communications Specialist, Haley Hoover.

"I bet it's cause he's such a slick operator!" Journey District Lineman, David Ball, said.

The actual meaning behind the name can be traced back to a small country school near Lone Grove. While playing basketball with the other 7th grade boys, Slick decided he wanted to look like one of the famous Globetrotters he had seen on television. That evening he shaved his head.

At school the next day the boys raved over his new slick head. The boys named him "Slick" and the name stuck.

Despite his Globetrotter style, Slick's favorite sport

goes back years before his basketball days. From the time he could walk, Slick has been fascinated with hunting rabbits. Every childhood weekend was spent following his dad around the fields, with a couple of dogs, chasing rabbits.

At age nine, Slick's father passed away but his legacy lived on. Slick continued to study the art of jackrabbit hunting and dog training by visiting his uncles in Southwest Oklahoma. By age fifteen he had a hunting dog of his own.

As Slick grew, so did his passion. In fact, it was this very fanaticism that led Slick to eventually move to Frederick. For him it was simple, that's where all the jackrabbits were.

Immediately following his move, Slick was hired at a local body shop. His good work ethic and positive attitude soon led him to a better paying job at Perry Tire Shop, where he worked for the next thirty-two years. When the shop closed down he took a job fixing tires at the Tipton Farmer's Coop before making his way to Southwest Rural Electric in 2003.

This will be Slick's 15th year at the coop. We are very fortunate to have such a cheerful, honest and dedicated employee at our office. Day in and day out, Slick is making a difference in each of our lives, simply by being himself. He truly envelopes the cooperative mindset and inspires others to do the same. Thank you, Slick, for everything you do and all that you are.

Kenneth E. Simmons



2017 OK Winner, Payton Morris

Youth Tour Applications

Due: December 1, 2017

www.swre.com/youthtour

2018 Board Officers



Don Ellis, President

Don Ellis is the newly-elected board president of SWRE. Mr. Ellis has served on the SWRE board for forty-two years and will continue to do so as the 2018 board president.



Ronnie Swan, Vice President

Ronnie Swan will be serving as the board vice president in 2018. Mr. Swan has served on the SWRE board for twelve years.



Don Proctor, Secretary

Don Proctor will continue serving in 2018 as the SWRE secretary. Mr. Proctor has been an active member of the board for twenty-three years.

Dan White, 2011-2017 President

Dan White has been an active member of the SWRE board for over forty-three years. Since 2011 he has enjoyed being the board president. SWRE is fortunate to have Mr. White's continued service as a board member.



What's Cookin' in the SWRE Kitchen

Turkey Tetrazzini



Ingredients:

- 1 tablespoon vegetable oil
- 1/2 cup chopped onion
- 10 ounces sliced mushrooms
- 2 cups chicken broth
- 2 1/2 cups half and half
- 12 ounces spaghetti uncooked
- 2 cups cooked and shredded turkey
- 1/2 cup sour cream
- 1 tablespoon butter
- 1/4 cup parmesan cheese grated

Directions:

1. Heat the oil in a large pot on medium-high heat. Add the onion (if using) and mushrooms and cook until starting to soften. This should take about 2-3 minutes.
2. Pour the chicken stock and milk into the pot, cover and bring to a boil over high heat. Add the spaghetti to the pot and cook until almost al-dente, about 10 minutes. Stir in the cooked turkey meat and finish cooking until the pasta is done.
3. Take the pot off the heat, stir in the sour cream, butter and cheese. Serve immediately garnished with chopped parsley, if you like.

24-Hour Dispatching

Emergency Service

1-800-256-7973

Bill Payment Options:

- ✓ SWRE App
- ✓ www.SWRE.com
- ✓ 1-855-980-6821
Automated Line
- ✓ 1-800-256-7973
Tipton Office
- ✓ SWRE Office
*700 North Broadway,
Tipton, OK 73570*

✓ Area Banking Institutions:

- Altus* – Frazer Bank, National Bank of Commerce
- Blair* – Peoples State Bank
- Chillicothe* – American National Bank
- Crowell* – State Bank
- Electra* – Waggoner National Bank
- Frederick* – BancFirst, Frazer Bank
- Snyder* – All American Bank
- Vernon* – Herring Bank, Waggoner Bank, Bank of the West

NOTE: When paying at a bank, allow 10 days prior to the bill's due date.

SWRE News

Kenneth E. Simmons, Manager/CEO
Haley Hoover, **SWRE News** editor

Board of Trustees

- Don Ellis, Pres. District 1
- Ronnie Swan, Vice Pres. District 6
- Don Proctor, Sec. District 3
- Dan Lambert..... District 2
- Ray Walker District 4
- Dan Elsener..... District 5
- Dan White..... District 7
- Carl Brockriede..... District 8
- Jimmy Holland..... District 9

Southwest Rural Electric Assn.
P.O. Box 310
700 North Broadway
Tipton, OK 73570-0310
1-800-256-7973

SWRE News is published monthly for distribution to members of Southwest Rural Electric Association.

SWRE is an equal opportunity provider and employer.



Southwest Rural Electric Association
P.O. Box 310
Tipton, Ok. 73570-0310

Your Touchstone Energy Partner



Touchstone Energy®

PRSR STD
US POSTAGE PAID
TIPTON, OK. 73570
PERMIT NO. 6

Return Service Requested

SWRE *Trading Post*

Ads are online for 45 days & updated daily at www.swre.com

For Sale: Angus, polled Hereford yearly bulls for sale. Contact F.D. at 940-852-5181 or 940-839-5551.

For Sale: Triticale seed for sale. More winter pasture and lasts longer in the spring. Call 940-852-5181 or 940-839-5551.

For Sale: Allis-Chalmers 880 cotton stripper. Early 80's year model. Been barn kept for the last 15 years. Starts, runs, and operates like it should. Has good tires. Contact (940)886-8525.

For Sale: Certified seed wheat. Bentley, SY Flint, & Iba in bulk. OK Seed License 08005320. Call 580-482-4607 or 580-465-0564.

For Sale: 494 acres of productive farmland. Located 2 miles west of Chillicothe on highway 287. Call 940-852-5181 or 940-839-5551.

For Sale: New Estate Sale Items. Vernon, TX.—Dear-born self-start gas heater, Plexi-glass 4-self TV Stand, Green Velour Bench, Light Oak Veneer Entertainment Center with glass door, Glass Top Black End Table, Hoover Wind Tunnel Vacuum Cleaner, other Misc. items—Best Offer prices. 940-552-0424.

For Sale: Small Beagle puppies, vet checked, s/w, \$250,580-301-0253 or 580-480-5692.

For Sale: Triticale seed for sale. More winter pasture and lasts longer in the spring. Call 940-852-5181 or 940-839-5551.

For Sale: PS016510S Spicer transmission. 750 miles since rebuilt. Excellent condition. Phone: 580-480-5452 or land line 580-639-2341.

For Sale: Two 1969 Ford Mustangs. Body parts only. \$300 each or both for \$500. Call 580-481-8203.

For Sale: 2005 Dodge Ram HEMI 1/2 ton crew cab w small camper shell. Has upgraded sound system, tow package, excellent mechanical condition, new front tires, mud tires on rear. 146,000 miles, very nice \$11,500 OBO 580-301-4124

For Sale: Complete Model "A" motor, transmission, clutch with pedal and brake. Has ignition with keys. Not frozen and has clean oil, belt, hose and extra carburetor. Mounted on rolling table. Manufactured October 1929. Call 580 482-7180

NOTE: To be included in the print issue of SWRE News, ads should be received by the 10th of the previous month.

FREE classified non-commercial ads available for SWRE members only

MAIL ADS TO HALEY HOOVER AT P.O. BOX 310 TIPTON, OK 73570. E-MAIL THEM TO HALEYHOOVER@SWRE.COM, OR CALL 1-800-256-7973.