GENERATOR SOURCE
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Winter Generator Readiness Checklist

Starting isn't the same as being ready. Every item below comes from our technicians' service calls and inspections in fall 2026.

Site / unit: _____ Checked by: _____ Date: _____

IF YOU'RE THE ONE WHO SIGNS OFF

Ask whoever looks after your generator:

1. When did it last run under real load, on a load bank or a live transfer of the building, and what did that report flag?
2. How many hours will the fuel in the tank last right now, and when was that fuel last tested?
3. If a part fails tomorrow, how long is the repair, and what powers the building until then?

If any answer starts with "I think," book a winter check.

	CHECK	WHAT WE FOUND THIS FALL	DATE / INITIALS
☐	**1. Batteries** Check the date on the case; our guidance is to replace every 24 months. Get a load test, not just a voltage reading. Inspect cables and terminals.	Sets dated as recently as March 2024 past their life. Load tests at 73 and 43 percent life. Worn terminals.	
☐	**2. Battery charger** Confirm it's charging at the right output, the fuses are good, and it has been reset.	Low output, blown fuses, and chargers that had never been reset.	
☐	**3. Block heater** Compare the coolant temperature on the controller to the room. Inspect the heater hoses.	Dead heaters, and hoses burned or dry-rotted, on units that still started.	
☐	**4. Coolant and radiator** Test the freeze point, not just the level. Check for leaks and clean debris from the radiator.	Leaking radiators and radiators packed with debris.	
☐	**5. Fuel** Fill to 90 percent. Test fuel quality before buying more. Note any slow or long-cranking starts.	A low-fuel alarm at 55 percent. A unit that lost its prime after sitting one to three weeks.	
☐	**6. Transfer switch** Run a live transfer test with the building's load. Log transfer and retransfer times.	Dead sensing cards, burned components, and a unit running but not transferring power.	
☐	**7. Controller and sensors** Review the alarm history. Follow up on alarms that cleared on their own.	A sensor fault that locked a unit out during an outage. A false high-temperature alarm. A controller failure that damaged the engine control module.	
☐	**8. Full output** Load bank test once a year. Check air filters, belts and the turbo.	A starter seized from sitting. A unit that hadn't run in five years.	