

Now Available: Generators: Hazards and Installation

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As a result of Storm Alfred that left 99% West Hartford residents in the cold, the Building Inspection Office has seen a spike in the number of building permits for the installation of emergency generators. The office has received over 50 permit applications in the last 2-to-3 weeks, compared to 50 in a typical year! To help residents better understand how to choose a generator and safely install it, a public access TV show was produced featuring Senior Building Inspector Tim Mikloiche.

The show airs on WHC-TV Channel 5 at 7:30 PM on tonight and is available on demand by clicking [here](#).

The TV show will address the following questions:

When I select a generator, what information would I need to bring with me to the store so I can purchase the right size, make and model? Can generators run everything or do I need to be selective?

What are the advantages and disadvantages of a portable generator verses a permanent generator?

Do I need a permit? If so, why?

Is this a West Hartford rule?

Does it have to be inspected before I turn it on?

Do generators automatically kick on when there is a power failure?

How far away from the house does the generator need to be?

Where are some of the best locations to place a generator?

Where are some of the worst locations?

What are the hazards of a generator?

Back feed" is a term we heard a lot during the storm. What does that mean and what are the dangers?

Once the power comes back on, what are the steps I need to take to disconnect the generator?

Are there any dangers with this process?

There may be a long period of time between use. How should generators be maintained so they are ready to go when you need them? Web sites to visit for more information will be listed If you have a question, call the Building Inspection Office at (860) 561-7530.