

Safety after the storm

CRITICAL LIFESAVING POST-STORM SAFETY GUIDE

UL, a science safety organization, recommends that families affected by dangerous storm conditions read, learn and follow these lifesaving storm safety tips.

DANGER: Gas Leaks

Check for gas leaks in all your appliances that use gas; for example, hot water heaters, gas clothing dryers gas cooking stoves and gas home heating systems.

If you smell gas, turn off the main gas valve and call the gas company from a neighbor's house. If you shut off the main gas valve, you will need a professional to turn it back on.

DANGER: Portable Generators

As gasoline burns to fuel portable generators, it emits toxic carbon monoxide up into the air. Portable generators should be used only outdoors in a well-ventilated area, at least 20 feet away from windows and doors, and never indoors or in an attached garage.

If you have a portable generator, make sure it is UL Certified. Look for the UL Mark for low carbon monoxide portable generators on the front of the packaging and the UL holographic certification label with the Enhanced Mark on the bottom of the product. These labels are your indication that you have a genuine UL Certified product.

Portable generators typically are not weatherproof and can pose a risk of electrocution and shock when used in wet conditions. Use them outdoors and keep them protected from direct exposure to rain and water.



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DANGER: Carbon Monoxide Poisoning

Install CO alarms in your home. Because carbon monoxide is colorless, odorless and tasteless, these alarms are the only device that can sniff out and warn of poisonous CO gases.

Install them on every level of the house, including the basement and any other locations required by applicable laws; be sure to read the manufacturer's instructions carefully before installing the alarm.

DANGER: Electrical Appliances

Listed extension cords, when using appliances inside or outside the home or when using a portable generator to run power back to the house.

Do not turn on electrical items or touch circuit breakers if you are wet, and unplug appliances until they have been checked by a professional. Even products such as lamps and vacuum cleaners should not be used until they are completely dried out and no longer pose the danger of electrical shock

DANGER: Damage to Home Wiring

If you have experienced significant damage or flooding, you will want a professional technician to check any and all wiring in the home for shock and fire hazards. This could include anything from circuit breakers to outlets and light switches

About UL

UL fosters safe living and working conditions for people everywhere through the application of science to solve safety, security and sustainability challenges. The UL Mark engenders trust enabling the safe adoption of innovative new products and technologies. Everyone at UL shares a passion to make the world a safer place. We test, inspect, audit, certify, validate, verify, advise, and train. We support these efforts with software solutions for safety and sustainability.

For more information, visit: www.ul.com/stormsafety



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1018