

THE HAMMER

Delaware County Department of Building Safety Quarterly Newsletter



Year to Date Statistics

Single Family Homes:	675
Residential Alterations:	203
Residential Equipment Change Outs:	1,437
Swimming Pools:	125
Decks:	134
Commercial Multi-Family:	14
Commercial Alterations:	96
Commercial Signs:	57
Inspections Performed:	28,371
Residential Plan Reviews Completed:	2,341
Commercial Plan Reviews Completed:	696

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ELECTRICAL & GENERATOR SAFETY



Downed utility lines, power company blackouts, heavy snow falls or summer storms can all lead to power outages. Portable generators are a temporary solution to power appliances. It's important to know that portable generators emit carbon monoxide (CO), a poisonous, deadly gas. Use these tips to avoid CO exposure:

- Use portable generators outdoors in well-ventilated areas at least 20 feet (7 metres) from all doors, windows, and vent openings. Measure the 20-foot (7 metre) distance from the generator to the building.
- Never use a generator in an attached garage, even with the door open.
- Place generators so that exhaust fumes can't enter the home through windows, doors or other openings in the building. The exhaust must be directed away from the building.
- Make sure to install carbon monoxide (CO) alarms in your home. Follow manufacturer's instructions for correct placement and mounting height.
- Turn off generators and let them cool down before refueling. Never refuel a generator while it is hot.

Just Remember...

When plugging in appliances, make sure they are plugged directly into the generator or a heavy duty outdoor-rated extension cord. The cords should be checked for cuts, tears and that the plug has all three prongs, especially a grounding pin.

If you must connect the generator to the house wiring to power appliances, have a qualified electrician install a properly rated transfer switch in accordance with the National Electrical Code® (NEC) and all applicable state and local electrical codes.

FACT

- ❗ Portable generator exhaust is toxic and deadly. Do not stand or sit downwind of generator exhaust. If you can smell exhaust, you are inhaling it.

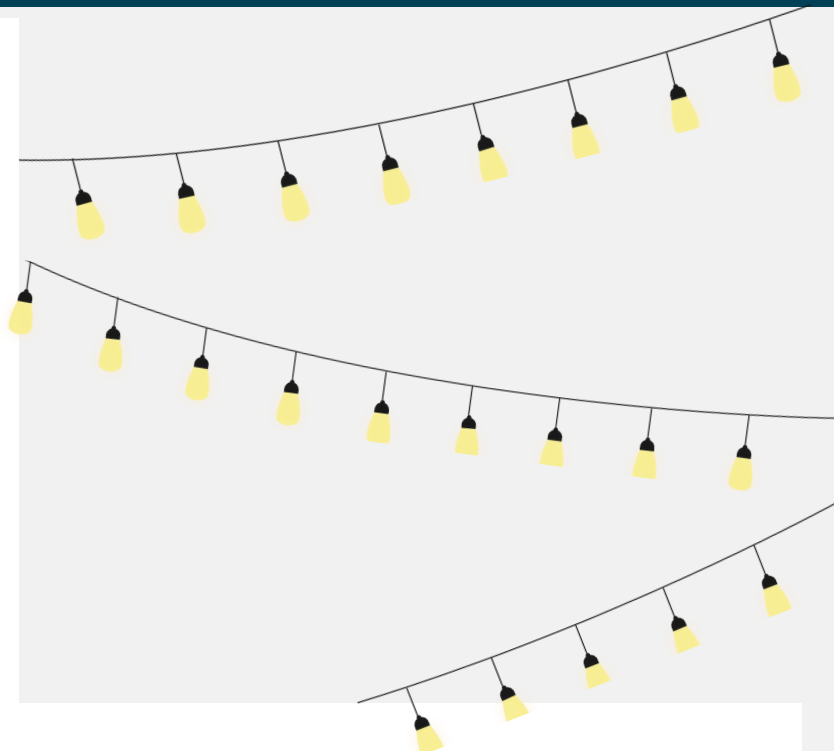


- Store fuel for the generator in a container that is intended for the purpose and is correctly labeled as such. Store the containers outside of living areas.

NATIONAL FIRE PROTECTION ASSOCIATION
The leading information and knowledge resource on fire, electrical and related hazards



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Electrical Safety

Flipping a light switch. Plugging in a coffeemaker. Charging a laptop computer. These are second nature for most of us. Electricity makes our lives easier. However, we need to be cautious and keep safety in mind.



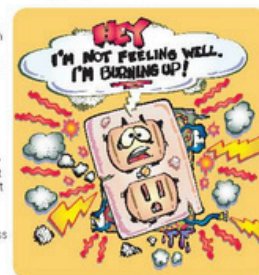
SAFETY TIPS

- Have all electrical work done by a qualified electrician.
- When you are buying or remodeling a home, have it inspected by a qualified private inspector or in accordance with local requirements.
- Only use one heat-producing appliance (such as a coffee maker, toaster, space heater, etc.) plugged into a receptacle outlet at a time.
- Major appliances (refrigerators, dryers, washers, stoves, air conditioners, microwave ovens, etc.) should be plugged directly into a wall receptacle outlet. Extension cords and plug strips should not be used.
- Arc-fault circuit interrupters (AFCIs) shut off electricity when a dangerous condition occurs. Consider having them installed in your home.
- Use ground-fault circuit interrupters (GFCIs) to reduce the risk of shock. GFCIs shut off an electrical circuit when it becomes a shock hazard. They should be installed inside the home in bathrooms, kitchens, garages and basements. All outdoor receptacles should be GFCI protected.
- Test AFCIs and GFCIs once a month according to the manufacturer's recommendations. You do not need a flame to start a fire. Fires can start when heat builds up near things that burn. This can happen when a hot light bulb is near things that burn, such as cloth or paper, or a cord has been placed under a carpet.
- Check electrical cords to make sure they are not running across doorways or under carpets. Extension cords are intended for temporary use. Have a qualified electrician add more receptacle outlets so you don't have to use extension cords.
- Use a light bulb with the right number of watts. There should be a sticker that indicates the right number of watts.

IMPORTANT REMINDER

Call a qualified electrician or your landlord if you have:

- Frequent problems with blowing fuses or tripping circuit breakers
- A tingling feeling when you touch an electrical appliance
- Discolored or warm wall outlets
- A burning or rubbery smell coming from an appliance
- Flickering or dimming lights
- Sparks from an outlet



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CODES ADMINISTERED BY DELAWARE COUNTY

2019 RCO + Updates

2023 NEC

2023 Delaware County Code

2024 Ohio Building Code

2024 Ohio Mechanical Code

2024 Ohio Plumbing Code

2024 Ohio Existing Building Code

2023 NEC

2021 Ohio Fire Code

2022 NFPA 13 (Design)

2021 International Energy Code

2021 International Fuel Gas Code

2021 International Swimming Pool and Spa
Code

DELAWARE COUNTY FAIR

September 13th - September 20th

<https://www.delawarecountyfair.com/>



The Delaware County Department of Building Safety reviews, inspects, and approves all of the tents around the race track.



Little Brown Jug

Thursday, September 18, 2025

Office Closes at Noon

Upcoming Holiday Schedule

Veterans Day

Tuesday, November 11, 2025



Thanksgiving

Thursday, November 27, 2025

Friday, November 28, 2025