

Tuck & Howell Plumbing, Heating & Air Launches New Guide on Home Backup Power Inspired by Pentagon Resilience Initiative

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The Department of Defense FORTRESS America initiative has drawn national attention to energy resilience, focusing on helping military installations maintain critical operations when outside infrastructure, including utility power, is disrupted. Pentagon discussions around the program have examined the ability for installations to continue functioning for 30, 60, or even 90 days without outside electricity, underscoring how central reliable power has become to continuity planning.

That national conversation raises a more practical question for households closer to home. For Upstate South Carolina residents, the relevant issue is which systems would need to keep operating during a power outage and what factors should guide backup power planning. Common priorities include refrigeration, heating and cooling, lighting, well and sump pumps, medical equipment, and critical electrical circuits.

Tuck & Howell Plumbing, Heating & Air recently published a new article explaining what the

FORTRESS America discussion can teach homeowners about backup power. The article translates the principles of military energy resilience into considerations relevant to residential settings, and it serves as the primary resource for readers who want a deeper understanding of standby generator planning.

The guidance from Tuck & Howell Plumbing, Heating & Air on whole home backup power reflects the company's broader approach of matching equipment to each home's specific requirements. The resource is intended for readers seeking factual, preparedness-focused information rather than a single prescribed solution.

The company positions itself as a local resource for whole-home standby generator planning and installation. Key considerations addressed during the planning process include generator sizing, overall electrical demand, fuel source such as natural gas or propane, automatic transfer equipment, installation and permitting requirements, and the decision between essential-load coverage and broader whole-home coverage. Automatic standby units differ from portable generators in that they are permanently installed and switch to generator power when utility power is lost, without manual setup during an outage.

Jay Mahaffey, owner of Tuck & Howell, noted that the FORTRESS America discussion offers a useful framework for homeowners. "The military is thinking in terms of days and weeks of independent operation, and that same mindset helps families decide what matters most in their own homes," Mahaffey said. "The first step is identifying which systems must stay on, and from there the sizing, fuel source, and transfer equipment decisions become much clearer."

Mahaffey added that planning ahead tends to produce better outcomes than reacting during an outage. "Our focus is on preparedness rather than alarm," he said. "A properly sized system matched to the household's actual needs is what makes the difference when the grid goes down."

Homeowners served by Tuck & Howell Plumbing, Heating & Air in Upstate South Carolina can currently save $1,000 instantly on a qualifying Generac standby generator, subject to the terms of the promotion.

Tuck & Howell Plumbing, Heating & Air has served Upstate South Carolina and Western North Carolina since 1969. The company provides air conditioning, heating, plumbing, and indoor air quality services, along with standby generator planning and installation, from locations including Duncan, Greenville, Greer, and Simpsonville.

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For more information about Tuck & Howell Plumbing, Heating & Air, contact the company

here:Tuck & Howell Plumbing, Heating & AirJay Mahaffey(864) 365-6965tuckhowell@tuckandhowell.com201 E North St Ste 206Greenville, SC 29601

Tuck & Howell Plumbing, Heating & Air

Tuck & Howell Plumbing, Heating & Air has served Greenville area families for over 50 years with dependable plumbing, heating, and cooling services, clear communication, and practical solutions.

Website: https://tuckandhowell.com/greenville-sc

Email: tuckhowell@tuckandhowell.com

Phone: (864) 365-6965