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Uninterrupted, reliable power is vital for industrial operations. Even a brief disruption can slam the brakes on production or service, leading to costly downtime. That's why so many industries rely on generators and rigorous maintenance protocols—keeping these important machines primed for action when it counts. Keep your generator running like a champ with our helpful checklists on how to maintain a generator! This blog will outline a comprehensive generator maintenance checklist to guide users in ensuring their equipment's optimal performance and safety. Proper preventive maintenance can extend the lifespan of a backup generator to 20 years or beyond. Naturally, the longevity also hinges on its frequency of use. With minimal usage, act little as 26 hours per year, and regular weekly exercises of just half an hour, your generator could even go the distance without experiencing any outages. These basic checks serve to ensure your generator is operating smoothly. Start your generator to ensure normal functioning. Verify that no alarms or warning lights have been triggered. For generators that run constantly, these daily checks are essential for peace of mind. However, if your generator operates intermittently, these steps may not be required as frequently. Depending on how often you perform checks, these checks can be a breeze, but they're still super helpful to keep things running like a charm. Peek at those fuel levels and top up the tank if needed. Check for any sneaky fluid leaks. Take a quick visual sweep to make sure everything's in shipshape condition. Give it a no-load workout with an automatic transfer switch (ATS) exercise cycle. Open and close the circuit breaker to check it is operating as you would expect. For some of these checks, you may want to consult our technical experts who will be able to assist. Clean up those battery terminals while checking out the battery electrolyte levels. While you're there, check the battery cables and their connections. Vigilantly inspect the fan belt. Perform a lubrication system check-up including oil leaks, system hoses and connectors. Give the electrical system and wiring a once-over. Check the exhaust system, muffler and exhaust pipe. Clear the area around your generator and remove any debris. REACH OUT TO US NOW FOR SUPPORT! Ensure a generator maintenance professional completes that annual generator maintenance checklist. We'll whip out our expert tools, do thorough checks, and fix any hiccups! It's time to change the oil and filter to give your generator a boost. Replace those air and fuel filters for a clean and smooth performance. Change out the spark plugs. Then, check coolant concentration. Clean it up the alternator. Carry out load bank testing. We'll put your generator to the ultimate test and ensure it's a powerhouse with a functional test! Get your generator in tip-top condition with our weekly, monthly, and annual maintenance checklists! Give it the TLC it requires, and in return, it'll give you years of safety, security, and endless peace of mind. To keep your generator in tip-top shape and roaring with power, regular maintenance of the different parts is required. Some of these tasks include changing its oil and swapping out the full-flow oil filter for a fresh one. Giving the radiator some TLC by emptying, flushing, and refilling it. To keep the fuel flowing by changing the fuel filter and making sure the air stays clean by swapping out the air filter. These are just a few of the maintenance steps - there's more generator maintenance tips in our handy checklists. Is it time to give your generator some treatment? Aim for a full-service either annually or after it's clocked 1,000 hours - whichever happens first. Our professional service includes 250 hour and 500-hour checkups too. We'll make sure your generator is working perfectly, changing oil and filter, and swapping out fuel lines as needed. When it comes to your diesel generator, the recommended servicing frequencies depend on its hard work and running time. As a rule of thumb, shoot for a full inspection and service every 6 months or at around 400 hours of running time. It's the ultimate rule for keeping your generator happy, healthy, and ready to power through any challenge. To find out more, check out our blog on diesel generator maintenance. Here at Shenton, we have the knowledge and expertise of the generator industry to understand the challenges you are facing and how best to support them. With nationwide coverage and 24/7 emergency response, you can rest assured that you and your equipment will be fully supported. Working with Shenton Group will ensure that you get the correct equipment for the application. If you would like to find out more about the industries we support, please visit our case study page. We also have a trusted reputation of being one of the leading suppliers of rental generators in the UK, we have supplied generators to some of the biggest institutions in the country and we are committed to upholding the highest standards of service. We pride ourselves on our quick response times, especially during emergencies, to ensure your business or project gets the attention it needs to ensure full functionality. Have you ever wondered what it takes to keep a whole house generator running smoothly and reliably? As an essential backup power source, a whole house generator requires regular maintenance to ensure it will be ready to provide electricity during unexpected power outages. In this blog post, we will explore the typical maintenance tasks needed for a whole house generator. 1. Regular Generator Inspection: Performing routine visual inspections is the first step in maintaining your whole house generator. Check for any signs of damage, leaks, or loose connections in and around the generator unit. Inspect the battery for corrosion and ensure it is securely connected. Look for any debris or vegetation that may have accumulated around the generator, as it can obstruct airflow and cause overheating. 2. Oil Change: Similar to a car engine, a whole house generator's engine requires regular oil changes to ensure smooth operation and longevity. Follow the manufacturer's recommendations on how often to change the oil - typically every 100-200 hours of usage or annually if unused. Always use high-quality oil recommended by the manufacturer for optimal performance. 3. Air Filter Replacement: The air filter prevents dirt, dust, and other particulates from entering the engine intake system and causing damage. Over time, air filters become clogged with debris hindering airflow efficiency which can reduce performance or even cause engine problems. Depending on usage conditions, it is recommended to replace or clean your air filter every 100-150 hours of runtime. 4. Spark Plug Replacement: Spark plugs are crucial components in generating combustion within an engine's cylinder chamber by creating sparks that ignite fuel-air mixture during startup periods or when loads fluctuate significantly. Replacing spark plugs after every 200-300 hours of usage ensures they are in optimal condition - providing consistent ignition throughout its lifespan. 5. Battery Maintenance: A reliable battery ensures that your whole house generator starts up promptly when needed during emergencies without any hiccups. It's essential to monitor the battery's charge level regularly and keep it at an adequate state. Consult the manufacturer's manual for specific guidance on maintenance, as some generators may require periodic trickle charging or replacement every few years. 6. Load Testing: Periodically subjecting your whole house generator to a load test helps simulate real-life scenarios and ensures it can handle the expected electrical demand during a power outage. Load testing is usually done every 12-18 months or whenever significant changes are made to your electrical system. It verifies that the generator starts up smoothly, reaches voltage stability promptly, and supplies electricity consistently. 7. Professional Servicing: While most maintenance tasks can be performed by homeowners with sufficient knowledge and caution, it is always wise to schedule professional servicing annually or bi-annually according to manufacturer recommendations. Trained technicians can carry out more complex inspections, perform detailed diagnostics, and resolve potential problems that may go unnoticed during routine checks. Remember, proper maintenance is crucial for ensuring your whole house generator operates reliably when needed most - during power outages. By following these typical maintenance practices diligently and adhering to the manufacturer's guidelines, you can rest assured knowing your backup power source is always prepared to keep your home running smoothly even in challenging times. Contact SWFL Generator for a Maintenance Service. When the power goes out, your whole house generator keeps the lights on, the fridge running, and your home comfortable. But like any major appliance, it needs regular maintenance to stay reliable. So how often should you service it? The short answer: at least once a year—but there's more to it than that. In this post, we'll break down service timelines, what's involved in a typical maintenance visit, and how to spot signs your generator needs attention sooner. Keeping your generator in top shape means it'll be ready when you need it. Here's what you need to know. Key Points Service your generator at least once a year or after every 200 hours of use. Increase servicing frequency if your generator operates in harsh conditions, such as extreme heat or heavy dust. Check your maintenance log to ensure you stay on schedule. Always use licensed technicians who follow manufacturer guidelines for professional servicing. How Often Should Whole House Generators Be Serviced? Whole house generators should be serviced at least once a year or after every 200 hours of use, whichever comes first. If your generator operates in harsh conditions, such as extreme temperatures or dusty environments, you may need more frequent maintenance. Follow the manufacturer's recommendations to ensure reliability, safety, and optimal performance. Regular servicing includes oil and filter changes, inspections, and testing to keep your generator running efficiently. What Affects How Often My Whole House Generator Needs Maintenance? Keeping your generator in top condition starts with following the manufacturer's recommendations. These guidelines establish a foundation for how often to schedule maintenance. However, other factors, like how often you use your generator, the type of fuel it runs on, and the conditions it operates in, can significantly influence the required frequency of servicing. Here are the key factors to consider: Usage Frequency: Generators need more frequent servicing periods during occasional use than those that run only annual service. Environmental Conditions: Extreme temperatures, high humidity, and dusty environments can negatively affect your generator. Servicing it more often can help ensure your generator remains reliable. Fuel Type: Different fuel types, such as diesel, natural gas, or propane, can affect the maintenance schedule. Diesel generators require more frequent oil changes than gasoline or fuel oil, while gasoline generators require less frequent servicing but still benefit from routine checks. Load and Performance: If you use your generator frequently runs under high load, it performs critical tasks, it's wise to service it more often. This generates reliability when you need it most. How Do I Know If My Generator Needs Servicing? Recognizing signs of generator trouble early can help prevent costly repairs. Look out for these indicators: Unusual Noises or Vibrations: Grinding, knocking, or excessive vibrations may point to internal problems that need attention. Frequent Start-Up Failures: Difficulty starting your generator often signals mechanical or electrical issues. Inconsistent Power Output: Fluctuations in voltage or frequency can harm appliances and indicate a need for servicing. Warning Lights or Error Codes: Control panel alerts highlight problems that require professional intervention. Fuel Leaks or Smells: Any signs of leaking fuel or unusual odors should be addressed immediately to ensure safety. Overheating: Excessive heat during operation suggests a malfunction that could damage components. Visible Corrosion or Wear: Rust, wear, or visible damage can compromise the generator's performance and safety. Maintenance Log Check: Reviewing maintenance records can reveal overdue servicing needs. What Do Technicians Do When They Service My Generator? When technicians service your generator, they perform several crucial tasks to keep it running efficiently. The process starts with a comprehensive inspection to identify wear, tear, or potential problems. This proactive step helps prevent unexpected breakdowns. They then change the engine oil and filters, which is essential for maintaining performance and preventing internal damage. At the same time, the battery is tested and maintained to ensure it's fully charged and ready to power up the generator when needed. The fuel system is thoroughly inspected for leaks, blockages, or damage in the lines, filters, and tank. To avoid overheating, technicians also check coolant levels and inspect the cooling system for any leaks or inefficiencies. The service includes a detailed evaluation of the electrical system, confirming that all connections, wiring, and control panels are functioning properly. Load testing follows, where technicians run the generator under simulated operating conditions to verify that it delivers steady, reliable power. If your generator relies on software, technicians perform necessary firmware updates to improve functionality and security. They also clean external parts and apply lubrication to moving components, which reduces friction and extends the generator's lifespan. Finally, they conduct a series of safety checks to ensure all safety features meet operational standards. What Are the Consequences of Not Servicing My Generator Regularly? Neglecting regular maintenance makes your generator less reliable and more likely to fail during power outages. It also shortens the lifespan of the machine, as worn-out parts go unchecked and cause premature wear. Minor issues can turn into costly repairs if left unresolved. An unattended generator consumes more fuel and emits more pollutants, making it less efficient and environmentally friendly. Safety risks like fuel leaks or carbon monoxide emissions, as well as increased wear and regular checks. Additionally, skipping service can void your warranty, leaving you unprotected if problems arise. Unexpected downtime becomes a real threat when a generator isn't serviced. Regular maintenance ensures your generator stays reliable, efficient, and safe when you need it. Read more: Are Whole House Generators Worth It? Schedule Your Whole House Generator Service with Bacon Today! Avoid unexpected downtime, costly repairs, and safety risks by staying on top of your generator maintenance. At Bacon Plumbing Heating Air Electric, we handle everything discussed in this article—from oil changes and fuel system checks to safety inspections and load testing. Our expert technicians follow manufacturer guidelines to keep your generator running efficiently and reliably. We proudly serve all of Dallas-Fort Worth and Houston from our locations in Rockwall, Plano, and Spring. Our licensed electricians travel directly to your home to provide expert generator maintenance and ensure reliable power. Don't wait for a power outage to find out your generator needs service. Call Bacon Plumbing Heating Air Electric today or at our online to schedule your maintenance! Discover the standard portable generator maintenance tips and our printable PDF to keep your machine in top performance. Generator maintenance checklist: Do the things on this generator maintenance checklist in the right intervals to get the most out of your machine. Change generator oil/Check for leaks/Check generator fuel stores/Track fuel freshness/Empty gas tank for extended storage/Do generator test/runs/Replace broken generator parts/Clean and/or adjust your generator spark plug/Store the generator in a cool, dry place/Keep the electric start battery full/Generator oil keeps your engine moving smoothly which helps avoid damage and improves efficiency. However, as you use your generator, the engine oil gets stale. How often you should change generator oil depends on your usage conditions too. However, changing your portable generator oil every 50 to 100 hours of operation or 6 to 12 months from this first is a good general rule. For standby generators, this maintenance task is something to do every 100 to 200 hours of operation or every 1 to 2 years. Checking for leaks is a straightforward generator maintenance task you want to do before every use. A quick look at where you stored the generator can sometimes prevent a lot of trouble. Checking your generator fuel stores is an important point on the checklist since you need these to produce electricity. This starts at the fuel side of a gasoline or diesel generator but applies to a propane tank too. The two main things to pay attention to are any leaks in your fuel stores and simply how much you still have left. Tracking the freshness of the generator fuel is another fuel-related maintenance task. Keeping your fuel stores fresh is important since fuel types like gasoline can go bad. Your generator will not function if the fuel is too stale. Old fuel can also clog up your generator carburetor. When storing your gasoline generator for longer than a month without using it you will need to add fuel stabilizer to your tank or just empty it entirely. According to Champion, this can extend the gasoline's lifespan for up to 1 year. Emptying your generator gas tank entirely is the safer option but requires more time and attention. Doing test runs with your generator to check things like its power should be part of your maintenance checklist too. The recommendations for how often you want to test your generator vary from weekly to yearly. So the more essential your generator is and the closer you get to storm season, the more it makes sense to do these test runs more frequently. As you can expect replacing broken generator parts after you notice them is essential. This generator maintenance task applies to extension cords, transfer switches, fuel tank lines, and other things too. Generator air filters prevent dust and debris from getting into the machine. When your air filter gets too dirty your generator will run suboptimally or not at all. Your generator manual should tell you how and when to clean or replace the air filter of your specific machine. Maintaining your spark plug is important for making sure your generator starts during emergencies and other situations. First of all, you want to clean your spark plug by taking the steps described in the generator manual. Secondly, your generator spark plug will have a recommended gap size. You may have to carefully bend the side electrode to stay within the recommended range. Since a generator should not get wet you want to store it in a dry place after completing the other maintenance tasks. You want to follow other generator storage guidelines like keeping it in a cool location too. Electric and remote start generators use the power of a built-in battery instead of a recoil pull coil to start the machine. However, you need to maintain the battery levels during extended storage without using the generator. At least if you want to be able to start the machine at the push of a button. There are many ways to charge a generator battery. The exact steps in this maintenance task can vary a lot from brand to brand and generator to generator. Generator maintenance checklist pdf You can also print out our portable generator maintenance checklist pdf to keep track of what tasks you need to do. A generator should be serviced with small maintenance tasks like checking oil and fuel levels before every use. Maintenance tasks like oil change should be done every 50 to 100 hours of operation or 6 to 12 months if this comes first for a portable generator. Similarly, you should clean your generator air filter after every 50 hours of use or every 3 to 6 months. In simpler words, you definitely want to check your generator manual to see what specific maintenance tasks it needs and when. Some examples of maintenance tasks that are needed on a generator are oil changes, leak checks, and tracking fuel stores. You maintain a generator at home by checking your user manual, getting the necessary equipment, and following a maintenance schedule. Share — copy and redistribute the material in any medium or format for any purpose, even commercially. Adapt — remix, transform, and build upon the material for any purpose, even commercially. The licensor cannot revoke these freedoms as long as you follow the license terms. Attribution — You must give appropriate credit, provide a link to the license, and indicate if changes were made. You may do so in any reasonable manner, but not in any way that suggests the licensor endorses you or your use. ShareAlike — If you remix, transform, or build upon the material, you must distribute your contributions under the same license as the original. No additional restrictions — You may not apply legal terms or technological measures that legally restrict others from doing anything the license permits. You do not have to comply with the license for elements of the material in the public domain or where your use is permitted by an applicable exception or limitation. No warranties are given. The license may not give you all of the permissions necessary for your intended use. For example, other rights such as publicity, privacy, or moral rights may limit how you use the material. Published: January 17, 2025 | By Michael Davis, Generator, Kohler, Briggs & Stratton, and Cummins. This straightforward guide breaks down exactly what you need to do to keep your generator in top shape. Service recommendations from major manufacturers like Generac, Kohler, Briggs & Stratton, and Cummins. We've translated technical service manuals into simple steps that any homeowner can understand right away. Before diving into maintenance, make sure you have the right generator size for your needs with our Generator Sizing Calculator. Doing this ensures a well-maintained generator can last 2-3 times longer than a neglected one, saving you thousands of dollars and ensuring power when you need it most. Mosteller Generator Maintenance Tasks Description: DIY Friendly? Run Test Let your generator run for 10-15 minutes to ensure it starts properly and runs without issues. Visual Inspection: Check for leaks, loose wires, evident damage, debris around the unit. Check Oil and Fuel: Check oil level in the engine and the fuel tank. Check Coolant: Check liquid-cooled model's coolant level in the engine tank. Check Fuel: Check fuel for water and sediment. Check Battery: Check battery terminals for corrosion. Check Battery: Check battery connections are tight and clean (no corrosion). Generac recommends using their Mobile Link™ app for automated reminders and to monitor your generator's status remotely. Most Generac models run a 12-minute self-test weekly, but you should still perform a manual check monthly. On newer models (Guardian series), check the controller screen for any active alerts. Kohler recommends using their On/Off Plus system to receive alerts about your generator's status. For Kohler models, pay special attention to the air intake, which may require more frequent cleaning in dusty environments. Their Decision-Maker controllers display maintenance reminders automatically. Briggs & Stratton units with InfoHub™ will send maintenance alerts to your phone or email. Their Fortress and Symphony II models have accessible maintenance points with color-coded caps, making monthly checks even easier for homeowners. Cummins recommends using their Connect Cloud service for automated maintenance tracking. Their Quiet Connect™ series has an easy-access door for simple monthly maintenance. Check the controller for "Maintenance Due" messages during your monthly inspection. Most newer generators automatically run weekly self-tests, but manufacturers still recommend a monthly manual run test under load. How to do it: This test confirms that the entire system—not just the generator engine—is working properly. Annual Generator Maintenance Checklist: Annual maintenance is more comprehensive and usually requires a professional technician. All major manufacturers (Generac, Kohler, Briggs & Stratton, Cummins) require annual service to maintain your warranty. Here's what should be done each year: Service Requirements: Professional Only? Oil & Filter Change: Replace oil and filter using manufacturer-recommended grade/Recommended Air Filter Replacement: Replace air filter to ensure proper engine breathing/No Spark Plug Service: Replace spark plugs (gas models) or check injectors (diesel)/Recommended Battery Test & Service: Load test battery, clean terminals, check charging system/Fuel System Inspection: Check fuel lines, filters, and connections for leaks/Yeast Cooling System Service: Inspect radiator, clean fins, check coolant condition/Yeast Adjustment: Check and adjust valve clearance if necessary/Yeast Transfer: Switch Test/Verify transfer switch operation and connections/Yes Control System: Check Verify all major safety shutdowns and alerts function/Yes Exhaust System: Inspection/Check for leaks, corrosion, and proper attachment/Yes Make sure your generator is properly sized.—According to current manufacturer data and our dealer network, here are the typical costs for annual professional service: Air-Cooled Home Generators (8-22kW): \$250 - \$400 per year/Liquid-Cooled Home Generators (20-60kW): \$350 - \$600 per year/Typical service call duration: 1-2 hours/Important: Most generator warranties require annual professional maintenance. Skipping these services could void your warranty and leave you without coverage for major repairs. Manufacturer-Specific Maintenance Requirements: While basic maintenance is similar across brands, each manufacturer has specific requirements to maintain warranty coverage: Manufacturer-Required Service: Internal Special Requirements: Generac Annual or every 100 hours/Requires Generac oil and filters for full warranty coverage; recommends service 6 months after initial installation/Kohler Annual or every 100 hours/Specifies SN 5W-30 synthetic oil for most residential models; requires certified technician for warranty work/Briggs & Stratton Annual or every 200 hours/Can use third-party service companies, but recommends authorized dealers; requires maintenance records/Cummins Annual or every 150 hours/Emphasizes exhaust system inspections; requires registration of service in Cummins system for warranty PowerPact (8kW-11kW)/Guardian Series (16kW-22kW): Seasonal Maintenance Considerations: Finding Qualified Generator Service Technicians: For warranty-compliant service and the best maintenance experience, work with qualified technicians who specialize in your generator brand. Service Type: ProCons Manufacturer-Authorized Dealer/Independent Generator Service: Maintenance Agreement: Keeping Maintenance Records: Proper Documentation: is essential for warranty claims and can increase your generator's resale value. Keep these records: Keep all invoices showing dates, services performed, parts replaced, and technician information. Record all maintenance including DIY checks, oil additions, and exercise run times. Save receipts for all parts and fluids used, especially if they're OEM certified. Many newer generators include digital maintenance tracking via smartphone apps. These systems track run hours, service intervals, and can even alert your service provider when maintenance is needed. Money-Saving Maintenance Tips: Remember: Skipping maintenance to save money often leads to much more expensive repairs later. A typical repair bill for a neglected generator can easily exceed \$1,000-2,000, while annual maintenance costs only \$250-400. Warning Signs: Your Generator Needs Immediate Attention: Don't wait for your scheduled maintenance if you notice any of these engine problems: Action: Shut down and call service immediately/Oil, coolant, or fuel leaks around the generator base or connections require immediate attention. Action: Call for service within 24 hours/Generator starts but shuts down after running briefly, indicating safety system activation. Action: Check error code and call service/Blue smoke (oil burning) or black smoke (improper fuel mixture) indicates serious issues. Action: Shut down immediately and call for service/Generator fails to complete its weekly self-test or shows error codes afterward. Action: Check controller screen and call service/Low battery alerts or failure to start during testing indicate electrical system problems. Action: Schedule service within 48 hours/Common Generator Error Codes and Their Meaning: Modern generators display error codes to help diagnose problems. Here are the most common codes for popular models: Brand & Code Meaning/Typical Solution: Generac: 1500W Low Oil Pressure/Check oil level, check for leaks, possible oil sensor failure/Generac: 2800 Low Battery/Check battery connections, charge or replace battery/Kohler: E-7 Overvoltage/Requires professional service, possible voltage regulator issue/Briggs & Stratton: 1-4 Low Fuel Pressure/Check fuel supply, possible fuel filter clog/Cummins: Code 359 Maintenance Due/Schedule Full error code lists are available in your owner's manual or online/Always have your generator model and serial number ready when discussing error codes with service providers. Generator Service Plans: Are They Worth It? Average Cost: \$250-500 per year/Best for: Not worth it if: Generac PowerPro Dealer Plans/Kohler Authorized Dealer/Plans Note: Prices vary by region, generator size, and dealer. Many dealers offer multi-year discounts of 10-15% when prepaid. Find factory-authorized technicians in your area who can maintain your specific generator model. Our nationwide network includes certified professionals from all major brands. Find LOCAL GENERATOR DEALERS AND SERVICE! Your Generator Maintenance Calendar: Stay on track with this simple maintenance schedule: Timeframe/Tasks to Complete/Monthly Every 6 Months/Annually/Every 2 Years/Every 3-5 Years/Set calendar reminders for your generator maintenance. Most manufacturers recommend: Quick DIY Maintenance Guide: Follow these step-by-step instructions for basic maintenance so you can safely perform yourself. Time required: 10-15 minutes/Cost: \$20-50 for replacement filter | Time required: 15-20 minutes/Time required: 20-30 minutes/Monthly checks can prevent 70% of common generator problems/Professional annual service is critical for warranty maintenance/The average service cost of \$250-400 per year is much cheaper than emergency repairs/Most major manufacturers provide service 6 months after initial installation/Kohler Annual or every 100 hours/Specifies SN 5W-30 synthetic oil for most residential models; requires certified technician for warranty work/Briggs & Stratton Annual or every 200 hours/Can use third-party service companies, but recommends authorized dealers; requires maintenance records/Cummins Annual or every 150 hours/Emphasizes exhaust system inspections; requires registration of service in Cummins system for warranty PowerPact (8kW-11kW)/Guardian Series (16kW-22kW): Seasonal Maintenance Considerations: Finding Qualified Generator Service Technicians: For warranty-compliant service and the best maintenance experience, work with qualified technicians who specialize in your generator brand. Service Type: ProCons Manufacturer-Authorized Dealer/Independent Generator Service: Maintenance Agreement: Keeping Maintenance Records: Proper Documentation: is essential for warranty claims and can increase your generator's resale value. Keep these records: Keep all invoices showing dates, services performed, parts replaced, and technician information. Record all maintenance including DIY checks, oil additions, and exercise run times. Save receipts for all parts and fluids used, especially if they're OEM certified. Many newer generators include digital maintenance tracking via smartphone apps. These systems track run hours, service intervals, and can even alert your service provider when maintenance is needed. Money-Saving Maintenance Tips: Remember: Skipping maintenance to save money often leads to much more expensive repairs later. A typical repair bill for a neglected generator can easily exceed \$1,000-2,000, while annual maintenance costs only \$250-400. 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Find factory-authorized technicians in your area who can maintain your specific generator model. Our nationwide network includes certified professionals from all major brands. Find LOCAL GENERATOR DEALERS AND SERVICE! Your Generator Maintenance Calendar: Stay on track with this simple maintenance schedule: Timeframe/Tasks to Complete/Monthly Every 6 Months/Annually/Every 2 Years/Every 3-5 Years/Set calendar reminders for your generator maintenance. Most manufacturers recommend: Quick DIY Maintenance Guide: Follow these step-by-step instructions for basic maintenance so you can safely perform yourself. Time required: 10-15 minutes/Cost: \$20-50 for replacement filter | Time required: 15-20 minutes/Time required: 20-30 minutes/Monthly checks can prevent 70% of common generator problems/Professional annual service is critical for warranty maintenance/The average service cost of \$250-400 per year is much cheaper than emergency repairs/Most major manufacturers provide service 6 months after initial installation/Kohler Annual or every 100 hours/Specifies SN 5W-30 synthetic oil for most residential models; requires certified technician for warranty work/Briggs & Stratton Annual or every 200 hours/Can use third-party service companies, but recommends authorized dealers; requires maintenance records/Cummins Annual or every 150 hours/Emphasizes exhaust system inspections; requires registration of service in Cummins system for warranty PowerPact (8kW-11kW)/Guardian Series (16kW-22kW): Seasonal Maintenance Considerations: Finding Qualified Generator Service Technicians: For warranty-compliant service and the best maintenance experience, work with qualified technicians who specialize in your generator brand. Service Type: ProCons Manufacturer-Authorized Dealer/Independent Generator Service: Maintenance Agreement: Keeping Maintenance Records: Proper Documentation: is essential for warranty claims and can increase your generator's resale value. Keep these records: Keep all invoices showing dates, services performed, parts replaced, and technician information. Record all maintenance including DIY checks, oil additions, and exercise run times. Save receipts for all parts and fluids used, especially if they're OEM certified. Many newer generators include digital maintenance tracking via smartphone apps. These systems track run hours, service intervals, and can even alert your service provider when maintenance is needed. Money-Saving Maintenance Tips: Remember: Skipping maintenance to save money often leads to much more expensive repairs later. A typical repair bill for a neglected generator can easily exceed \$1,000-2,000, while annual maintenance costs only \$250-400. 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Find factory-authorized technicians in your area who can maintain your specific generator model. Our nationwide network includes certified professionals from all major brands. Find LOCAL GENERATOR DEALERS AND SERVICE! Your Generator Maintenance Calendar: Stay on track with this simple maintenance schedule: Timeframe/Tasks to Complete/Monthly Every 6 Months/Annually/Every

Alpha Sinfonia fraternity, is founded at the New England Conservatory of Music in Boston by Ossian Everett Mills. October 15 - The Fork Union Military Academy is founded, in Fork Union, Virginia.[13] October 21 - General Leonard Wood, the U.S. military governor of Cuba, issues a proclamation guaranteeing personal rights to the Cuban people.[14] October 22 - In a race riot near Harperville, Mississippi in the U.S., 14 African-Americans and one white person are killed.[14] October 23 - An anarchist, suspected of plotting the assassination of Germany's Kaiser Wilhelm II, is arrested in Egypt at Alexandria.[14] October 24 - The last Spanish soldiers in Puerto Rico, led by General Ortega, depart on ships to return to Spain.[14] U.S. President William McKinley extends the deadline for all Spanish troops to leave Cuba. Set to expire on December 1, the last day to depart is extended to January 1, 1899.[14] Chinese soldiers attack a party of British engineers at the Marco Polo Bridge on the Beijing to Hankou railway.[14] October 26 - A collision between two Japanese steamers at sea kills 60 Japanese sailors.[14] The U.S. begins the release and repatriation of Spanish Navy sailors who had been taken as prisoners of war in the Philippines, and sends them back to Spain.[14] October 27 - The Court of Cassation in Paris hears arguments for a new trial in the Dreyfus case.[14] The Court grants the request on October 29. October 29 - France's Court of Cassation grants a rehearing at the Dreyfus case.[14] Kaiser Wilhelm II of Germany and his wife arrive at Jerusalem in Ottoman-ruled Palestine and visit the Church of the Holy Sepulchre.[14] October 30 - The Imperial Russian government announces that the leaders of the world's major nations have accepted the invitation of the Tsar to take part in a proposed conference of disarmament.[14] October 31 - The Lutheran church of the Redeemer, Jerusalem is dedicated after the Sultan of the Ottoman Empire presents the area, said to be the site of the Virgin Mary's home, to Germany's Roman Catholics.[14] Count Okuma Shigenobu, Japan's Prime Minister, announces his resignation along with that of his cabinet of ministers.[14] November 1 - Charles Dupuy forms a new government as Prime Minister of France following the resignation of Henri Brisson.[14] November 3 - With increasing violence threatened by rebels in China, the Russian government at Port Arthur and the British warships at Wei-Hai-Wei are ready for battle.[14] November 5 - Negro Revolution: Philippines, the island of Negros revolt against Spanish rule and establish the short-lived Republic of Negros.[14] In China, an admiral of the Imperial Russian Navy and 40 sailors are denied permission by the Chinese government to proceed from Tientsin to Beijing. In the U.S., the collapse of a theater under construction, Detroit kills 14 workers.[14] November 6 - The Japanese ambassador to China meets with the Emperor and the Empress Dowager at Beijing.[14] November 7 - The final meeting of the Cuban Assembly of the Republica de Cuba in Armas, which had been founded in 1895 during the Cuban War of Independence, is called to order by General García in the city of Santa Cruz de Sur. Domingo Méndez Capó is elected as president of the assembly. November 8 - Elections are held in the U.S. for all 357 seats in the House of Representatives, as well as for the governors and state legislature in 22 of the 45 states. With 70 new members, the Republicans win control with 187 seats, despite the fact that other 4 states are controlled by the Democrats. November 9 - The Populist Party loses all but five seats in the House of Representatives. November 10 - The Wilminton insurrection of 1898 begins as a coup d'état by the white Democratic Party of the U.S. state of North Carolina against the Republican Mayor of Wilmington. On the first day, a building housing a negro newspaper is burned and eight African Americans are killed.[14] The new United Central American States, a merger of El Salvador, Honduras and Nicaragua, places its capital in the Nicaraguan city of Chinandega.[14] Bartolomé Masó, the President of the Republica de Cuba en Armas that had been founded during the Cuban War of Independence, resigns.[14] November 11 - In Wilmington, negro leaders and white republicans are forced to leave the city by new government.[14] November 12 - The Earl of Minto takes office as the new Governor General of Canada.[14] November 17 - Fighting begins in Pana, Illinois, between striking white coal miners and black miners hired to replace them.[14] November 18 - The wreck of the ship Atlanta off the coast of the U.S. state of Oregon kills 26 of the 30 crew aboard.[14] November 19 - In U.S. college football, Harvard University defeats Yale University, 17 to 0, to close the season unbeaten.[14] November 21 - At the Paris conference to end the Spanish-American War, the U.S. commissioners offer \$20,000,000 for purchase of the Philippines from Spain.[15] November 24 - Italy sends an ultimatum to the Sultan of Morocco concerning treatment of Italian residents.[15] November 26 - General Ramón Blanco resigns as the Spanish Governor-General of Cuba and is replaced by General Adolfo Jiménez Castellanos.[15] A two-day blizzard known as the Portland Gale piles snow in Boston, severely impacting the Massachusetts fishing industry and several coastal New England towns.[15] The U.S. Marines arrive on USS Boston to Tientsin in China in order to guard the American legation at Beijing.[15] November 27 - All 115 people aboard the American steamer SS Portland are killed when the ship founders off the coast of Cape Cod.[15] November 28 - The Spanish peace commissioners in Paris announce that they accept the offer of the U.S. to purchase the Philippines.[15] November 30 - The United Central American States, a merger of Nicaragua, Honduras and El Salvador, is formally dissolved after the government was unable to suppress a revolution in San Salvador.[15] December 1 - President Alvaro of Ecuador suspends the government and assumes a dictatorship over the South American nation.[15] The French government decrees a ban on imports of fruit and plants from the United States.[15] December 2 - The French Chamber of Deputies declines to endorse the policies of Prime Minister Depuy, with the vote failing 228 to 243.[15] December 3 - The Republic of Nicaragua issues a decree announcing its return to sovereignty as a separate nation after its union with El Salvador and Honduras collapses.[15] December 4 - President Zelaya of Nicaragua appoints a new cabinet free of ministers from El Salvador or Honduras.[15] The wreck of the British steamer SS Clan Drummond in the Bay of Biscay kills 37 people on board.[15] December 5 - A fire at a factory in the Russian city of Vilna (now Vilnius in Lithuania) kills 15 women and girls, most of whom die after jumping from the windows.[15] December 6 - The Chancellor of Germany opens the new session of the Reichstag and asks for an increase in the budget for the German Army.[15] December 9 - The first of the two Tsavo Man-Eaters is shot by John Henry Patterson; the second is killed 3 weeks later, after 135 railway construction workers have been killed by the lions. 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