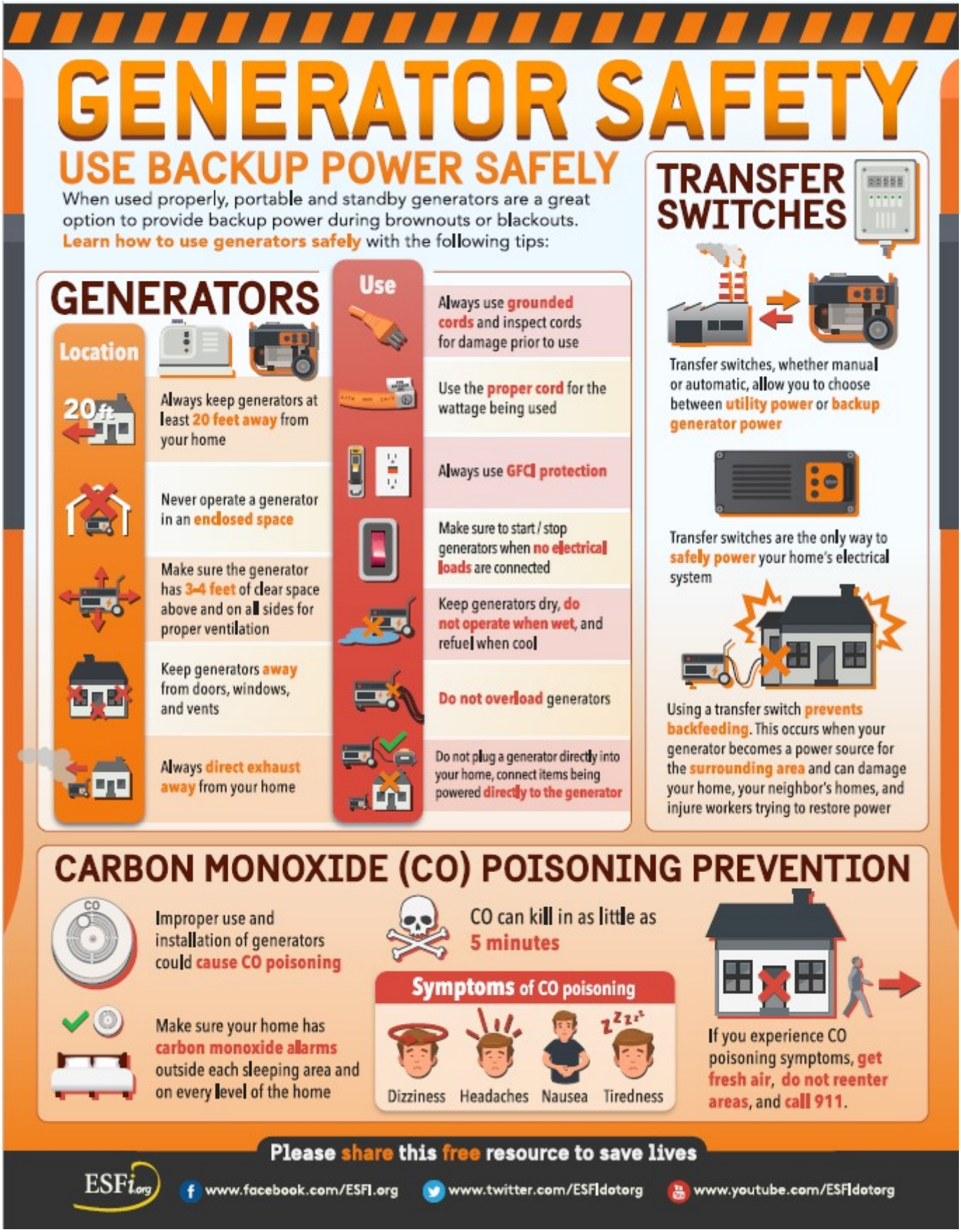
Generator Safety Infographic





When used properly, portable and standby generators are a great option to provide backup power during brownouts or blackouts. Learn how to use generators safely with the following tips:

Generators

- Location
  - Always keep generators at least 20 feet away from your home
  - Never operate a generator in an enclosed space
  - Make sure the generator has 3-4 feet of clear space above and on all side proper ventilation

    - Keep generators away from door, windows, and vents
    - Always direct exhaust away from your home
- Use
    - Always use grounded cords and inspect cords for damage prior to use
    - Use the proper cord for the wattage being used
    - Always use GFCI protection
    - Make sure to start / stop generator when no electrical loads are connected
    - Keep generators dry, do not operate when wet, and refuel when cool
    - Do not overload generators
    - Do not plug a generator directly into your home, connect items being powered directly to the generator

Transfer Switches

- Transfer switches whether manual or automatic, allow you to choose between utility power or backup generator power
- Transfer switches are the only way to safely power your home's electrical system
- Using a transfer switch prevents backfeeding. This occurs when your generator becomes a power source for the surrounding area and can damage your home, your neighbor's home, and injure workers trying to restore power

Carbon Monoxide (CO) Poisoning Prevention

- Improper use and installation of generators could cause CO poisoning
- Make sure your home has carbon monoxide alarms outside each sleeping area and on every level of the home
- CO can kill in as little as 5 minutes
- Symptoms of CO poisoning
    - Dizziness
    - Headaches
    - Nausea
    - Tiredness
- If you experience CO poisoning systems, get fresh air, do not reenter areas, and call 911

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