

FREE PRINTABLE RESOURCE

POWER STATION FIELD CARD

Size it with watt-hours, store it safely, and recharge it by the rules before the outage.

SIZE IT (WATT-HOURS)

- ☐ **Watts x hours = watt-hours**
Virginia Cooperative Extension formula
- ☐ **List each device and its watts**
Read the label or plug-in rating
- ☐ **Write the hours you need for each**
- ☐ **Add the watt-hours, then buy above the total**
Usable energy is less than the label
- ☐ **Check total watts at the same time**
Over the unit's limit, it shuts off
- ☐ **Motors start at about 3x running draw**
Refrigerators, pumps, fans

TYPICAL WATTAGES (VT EXTENSION)

- ☐ **Laptop**
About 50 W
- ☐ **Flat-screen TV**
About 120 W
- ☐ **Microwave**
750 to 1,100 W
- ☐ **Coffee maker**
900 to 1,200 W
- ☐ **Frost-free refrigerator, 16 cu ft**
About 725 W

STORE AND CHARGE (USFA)

- ☐ **Choose certified products**
- ☐ **Store at room temperature**
Out of direct sun, not in a hot vehicle
- ☐ **Do not charge below 32°F or above 105°F**
- ☐ **Keep away from anything that can burn**
- ☐ **Charge before the storm**
Last charged: _____

STOP USING IT IF

- ☐ **Odor, color change, too much heat**
Change in shape, leaking, odd noises
- ☐ **Do not trash a lithium-ion battery**
Take it to battery recycling

RECHARGING RULES (CDC)

- ☐ **Generators stay outside**
At least 20 feet from doors and windows
- ☐ **Never in a home, garage or carport**
- ☐ **Do not run a car in a garage to charge things**

Smell, heat, swelling, or a CO alarm? Get everyone to safety and call 911.

Want the reasoning behind each line? Read the full guide on the TacticalBox blog.
tacticalbox.com/blogs/tacticalbox-blog

Sources: Virginia Cooperative Extension appliance wattages; U.S. Fire Administration battery fire safety; CDC carbon monoxide guidance. Typical values only; check your own devices. Informational only.