

# Getting Ready For Fall

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## Easy Backup Generator Solution

### Don't be without power again!

If you can start a lawn mower or a snow blower, you can have backup power to get you through the next power outage.

We have packaged the ideal solution to run your sump pump, fridge, furnace and lights during a power outage.

After bringing in a truck load generators to assist customers in Virginia who lost power from Hurricane Irene, we put together the ultimate portable solution.

We provide you with a powerful and highly reliable Generac XG 4000 generator. By installing a Reliance transfer switch wired to your breaker box, you no longer have to worry about extension cords.



We provide all needed accessories and even teach you how to use your new generator. So when the next outage happens, you will be ready to go.

If you are looking for an even easier solution, we can also design and install a standby backup generator. With this system your generator is powered by you natural

gas service and will automatically start during an outage. This way you don't even need to be home to have your home protected.

With our 365 days - Same As Cash - with no interest and no payment plan, you can protect your home and family today.

## Blown Insulation – A Great Energy Saver

**Did you know only 20% of homes built before 1980 are properly insulated?**

If your home is uncomfortably hot in the summer or cold in the winter, blown attic

insulation is often a cost-effective way to remedy this situation. While many factors contribute to the comfort levels, the attic is commonly overlooked. Adding a few inches of insulation can make a

night-and-day difference to your home's energy efficiency. This can be a great way to prepare for winter and lower your heating bills.

## Get America Back To Work

At Woodstar Energy, we strongly feel that the only way the American economy is going to prosper is through hard work by our politicians, our business leaders and the American worker.

This is why we have made it part of our company's personal mission to help get America back to work.

We are currently in the process of hiring a few

salespeople. We are asking that if you know anyone interested in learning the ropes of the roofing industry, please send them our way.

We have set up a job board for positions that we have available, as well as positions for which other small businesses are hiring. We even set up a location for those without jobs to post their resumes and skills.

This is our small way of trying to be part of the solution.

If you know someone hiring or looking for a job, please have them check out the job board at:

[www.woodstarenergy.com/work.html](http://www.woodstarenergy.com/work.html)

*"Now you can help save the environment and your wallet at the same time."*

## Illinois Solar Energy Rebate Is Back

Are you taking advantage of the incentives that have been put in place to increase the use of renewable energy products is State and Federal rebates or tax credits?

On the Federal level there is a tax credit in effect allowing for a 30% tax credit to be given for implementing certain renewable energy products, like solar

panels.

The State of Illinois also has a Rebate program that has funding to give a 30% rebate back on new renewable energy installations. This has been a very popular program and in the prior 2 years the entire funding pool has been used up within several weeks.

Products like solar thermal hot-water heaters or solar

photovoltaic panels can be a great way to reduce or eliminate your monthly gas or electricity bills...plus they help the environment.

At Woodstar Energy, we can perform a site survey to see if solar is right for you. If it is we can help design the proper system, apply for rebates, obtain financing and install your new system.

Now you can help save the environment and your wallet at the same time.

## Proper Ventilation Can Save Your Roof

Probably the least understood design component of a well-built roof is ventilation.

When you ask most roofers how to determine the proper way to vent a roof, a common response is: "You just have to look

at it and you can tell."

Wrong answer. There is a specific ventilation formula to determine the NFA (net free area) that is needed.

It is critical to have the intake (vents in soffits) and exhaust (vents on roof) vents balanced. In

no case should the amount of exhaust exceed the amount of intake.

Venting done correctly will greatly extend your roof's life. It will stop ice dams and it will improve energy efficiency.

## Wind & Hail: Why Insurance Pays

If you live in an area that has been hit by a recent wind or hail storm, you may have noticed that many of your neighbors are getting new roofs and siding installed.

Some wind and hail damage is very noticeable, such as dented roof vents, and cracked vinyl siding, dented aluminum siding. A vast majority of damages are hard to spot by the

untrained eye.

Often the damage incurred will not have an effect for years down the road, when leaking and mold issues arise.

Homeowners insurance is meant to protect the value of your home as well as restore your home to pre-damage conditions.

A home with dented and broken siding, dinged-up gutters, loose shingles or

missing fascia has less value then it had before the storm. Holes in siding and small cracks in shingles will lead to water damage in the future. This is why restoration of this nature is usually covered.

If you suspect your home has been affected, we provide free inspections. If damage exists we work with your insurance company, so your only cost is the deductible.



## Keeping Your Gutters Clean – Gutter Filter

Free-flowing gutters are necessary to the function of your roof system and a home maintenance issue most homeowners don't particularly enjoy.

Gutter cleaning can be a very dangerous activity, and most people know someone who has fallen off a ladder doing this.

This task is of the utmost importance, because clogged gutters can cause

leaks into the home, breakdown of tuck pointing, ice dams and rotting of roof decking.

To keep debris out of gutters, there are many different solutions available. These range from simple screens to systems that must be installed with new gutters.

We have had particular success with the gutter filter. This looks like a

triangular brillo pad that inserts into the gutter. Because it is black, it tends to dry leaves out so they blow away and melt ice and snow in the winter. This also is one of the more cost-effective solutions.

Don't risk falling off a ladder this fall. Have us clean your gutters and install gutter filter, so you won't need to worry about them anymore.

## Insulated Vinyl Siding

A common problem homeowners have is lack of insulation in wall cavities. This can lead to higher energy bills and comfort issues.

One solution to fill air spaces behind walls is with blown insulation or

spray foam. While effective, this can also be complicated. A better option that has become available is insulated vinyl siding.

It has similar benefits and appearance to regular vinyl siding. With a foam

insert that is adhered to the back, an insulation R-Value of 3.0 is achieved.

If you need to replace your existing siding, this can be a great solution to enhance the look of your home and its energy efficiency.

*“Damage will often not have an effect for years to come.”*

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Building Professionalism Into  
The Building Industry



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### A Word About Woodstar Energy

Woodstar Energy is a general contractor that does both interior and exterior remodeling services. While a home is made of many different parts that are installed by different tradespeople: we view your home as a complete system where our goal is to bring the building industry to a next level by ensuring that our staff is kept up to date with the latest industry trends to give you the very best options.

Along with numerous manufacturers certifications, we are a Illinois Licensed Roofing Contractor (License # 104.015905), Vinyl Siding Institute Certified Installer, and Building Performance Institute Building Analyst Professional. We also maintain membership with the Better Business Bureau, Des Plaines Chamber of Commerce, National Roofing Contractors Association, National Association of the Remodeling Industry and Illinois Solar Energy Association.

If you would like to learn more about how these topics may apply to your home, please contact Brian Krause at 847.924.4183 or [brian@woodstarenergy.com](mailto:brian@woodstarenergy.com) for a free in-home consultation.



## Flood Proof Basement Finishing

Having invented the 513 Alert flood monitoring system, we have been around basement flooding for many years. We have made it our personal mission to come up with the flood-proof basement. With the way weather patterns have changed, flooding is only going to continue to become more of an issue.

When newly finishing, restoring or remodeling a basement, we have created a system to flood proof basement. We take a stance that nature will always win, so we must build with this in mind.

Basements are below grade, water always flows down, concrete is porous and cold, mold likes dark, damp environments, and we are not going to be able to change this.

When building out a new basement, we use metal studs with foam insulation, both of which are water proof. For drywall we install mold-resistant drywall; this adds very little cost. Since leaks happen we install vinyl or ceramic tile; if it gets wet it can be easily mopped. We usually lean toward a higher-end vinyl tile, as it

tends to feel warmer and adds less height to the floor for lower basements. For trim work we use hardwoods or composites, as they work better in moist environments. When painting we use high-quality paints that have mildew inhibitors.

To finish we recommend a battery-backup sump pump with a 513 Alert system. We also inspect the exterior of the home to make sure downspouts and drainage are properly designed.

This is how we create the flood proof basement.