So you know getting a back-up generator is a great idea, but you just can't afford to purchase one? Well could you afford $40 for a small back-up generator? If you search around at your local junk yard or landfill you should be able to pick up most of the bits required to build this DIY lawnmower generator. There are a few extras you'll likely need to purchase, but you could bring this in for $40.

As this is a DIY generator built from a lawnmower, it isn't going to power your whole house, it won't run your AC, heating or large kitchen appliances; it will however keep the lights on and power smaller electronics etc. Check out the awesome and very detailed build tutorial below.

Build A DIY Generator From A Lawnmower (Total Project Cost $40!)

(Photo from: cid2323 via Instrucables)