

PSE on bainbridge island



Dear Neighbor,

We hope you had a safe, enjoyable Thanksgiving. We're thankful for being your power provider for nearly 80 years and are grateful to be a part of your community. Read on for more information on what we're doing on the Island.

City's electric utility effort

The City of Bainbridge Island's feasibility study is ongoing. The City has not publically communicated a specific timeline for the study's release or next steps for public involvement.

If you are interested in hearing more from the City on their plans, or would like to express your opinion on their efforts, you can always [attend a City Council meeting to speak during the public comment period](#). We at PSE are also interested in your opinion on the City's efforts. If you would like to meet with us to discuss this issue, please contact us at info@psebainbridge.com to schedule a meeting.



PSE is sponsoring the Boys & Girls Club all year on Bainbridge Island

Boys & Girls Club donation

We were happy to support the [Bainbridge Island Boys & Girls Club](#) when one of their biggest annual fundraisers was canceled due to the danger posed by the October windstorm.

The Bainbridge Gardens Pumpkin Walk typically generates about \$5,000 for the Boys & Girls club each year. PSE outreach manager Karen Brubeck explained PSE has “a long history of supporting nonprofits on Bainbridge Island, so when we learned about Bainbridge Gardens having to cancel the Pumpkin Walk...it seemed like a great opportunity to step in and help. Also, PSE certainly understands the impact storms and wind can have!” PSE donated \$5,000 to the Club to make up for lost donations.

We hope to see you at the Pumpkin Walk next year, enjoying the artfully carved pumpkins, trying your hand at carnival games, or wandering through the hay maze!



Participants discussing safety around high-voltage power lines

High voltage training

To follow the success of the Bainbridge Prepares Three Days of Preparedness event, we hosted a high voltage training on Bainbridge Island to provide information on what to do in an electrical emergency involving high voltage.

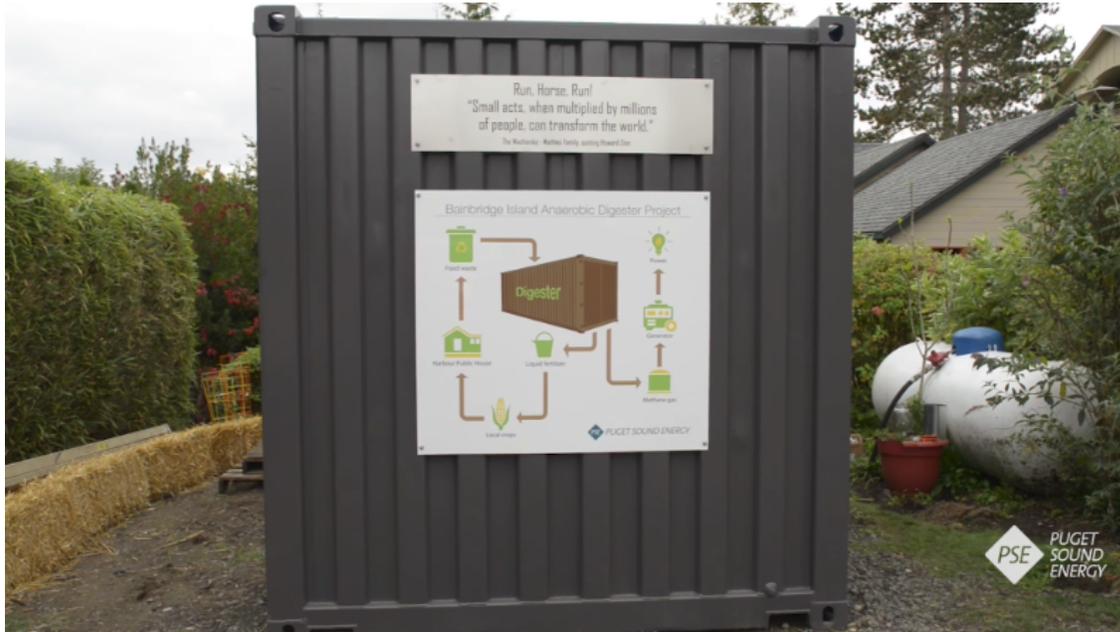
The training took place at City Hall on the evening of Nov. 2, and included demonstrations on high voltage and exercises about how to stay safe in high voltage emergencies.

If you didn't attend the event, there are still steps you can take if you find yourself in an emergency involving high voltage. If you come across a downed utility wire of any kind always do the following:

- Assume it is energized and stay as far away as you can.
- Call 911 or the utility serving the location. For PSE, call 1-888-225-5773.
- Do not drive over downed power lines.
- If the line falls on your vehicle while you are driving, stay in your car.

- If you must evacuate your vehicle, jump away and land with both feet together to avoid creating a path for the electricity to run through you. Keep your feet together and take small, shuffling steps until you're at least 35 feet away.

Safety is and will continue to be our top priority. For more information on staying safe near downed power lines and in other electrical emergencies, please watch [this video](#) or visit our [electrical safety website](#).



The HORSE biodigester

Harbour Pub biodigester update

Thanks to a partnership between the [Harbour Public House](#), [Impact Bioenergy](#), and PSE, the pub is hosting a six-month pilot project, a HORSE biodigester which turns food waste into biogas. The HORSE is up and running, but not yet galloping at full speed.

The workhorse of the biodigester are the tiny microbes that eat the food waste and turn it into biogas. Here's how the process works:

- The biodigester gets a few microbes from another hardworking biodigester. The Bainbridge microbes came from the Fremont Brewing Company HORSE digester in Seattle and PSE's long-term partner Rainier Biogas in Enumclaw.
- The microbes spend the first several weeks getting used to their new home. During this phase, technicians help them grow and reproduce by keeping the temperature and pH low and feeding them small amounts of food waste at a time. In the biodigester's first 39 days of running it operated at 2.1% of its input capacity to allow the microbes to re-populate inside it. In this time, the HORSE produced a total of 444 cubic feet of biogas from 114 pounds of food waste.
- Once the microbes are used to their new home, the pH and temperature are increased and the microbes can eat *a lot* more food waste. In the coming months, the HORSE will provide even more biogas than it has already.

PSE and Impact Bioenergy had the opportunity to present on the biodigester at the November Chamber of Commerce Breakfast. The attendees had many questions about the digester, and expressed interest

in a larger, permanent community digester. For more information on the pub's HORSE biodigester, check out [this video](#) on the PSE Bainbridge website.



Tree trimming underway

Commitment to reliability

We understand being without power is challenging, which is why we work consistently to improve reliability on Bainbridge Island. One way we do this is through routine [vegetation management](#) near power lines.

In November, we conducted routine assessments of some transmission lines. You may have seen our crews out in orange trucks over the past few weeks. For assessments like this, crews first identify tree branches and other vegetation that may fall on the line in a storm, then remove the branches and other vegetation posing a risk to the power line. For the Winslow Tap line assessment, no branches or vegetation needed to be removed.

To further reliability efforts on the Island, in 2017 we will build or rebuild several small, overhead distribution lines on the island. These improvements will better link remote areas of the island to the main power system, making it less likely they will lose power in a storm. The timing and other details of this work are still to be determined. We will share updates as we learn more.

Let us know what you think

Whether you have questions about our work on Bainbridge Island, the programs we offer, or other questions about PSE's services, we want to hear from you. Please contact us at info@psebainbridge.com.

Thank you,

Your PSE Bainbridge Team

pse.com/bainbridge



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Puget Sound Energy · 10885 NE 4th St · Bellevue, Wa 98004 · USA

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