

PSE on bainbridge island



PSE Bainbridge Update • February 2019



February was a busy month for us at PSE as we worked to restore power on Bainbridge and in the greater Kitsap County area after the recent snowstorms. In this newsletter, we want to highlight ways you can stay prepared for severe weather, keep you updated on our renewable energy programs, announce our new Powerful Partnership with Bainbridge Youth Services, and say farewell to our longtime Kitsap County Outreach Manager Karen Brubeck.



Crews worked through the night to restore power to customers on Bainbridge Island.

Responding to recent storms in Kitsap County

Kitsap County has been hit with several storms this winter, including the February snowstorms that affected all of Western Washington. Behind the scenes, PSE crews and employees were in the field working 24/7 to get power restored safely to our customers, restoring power to thousands of affected customers on Bainbridge Island alone! During the most recent power outage, the PSE community outreach team set up a table at Town & Country Market to allow customers to ask questions, get a hot cup of coffee, and charge their cell phones.

The best way to follow the status of an outage is by checking our [outage map](#) and the [myPSE app](#). These tools were recently updated based on customer feedback during the recent snowstorms when the outage map did not always perform as expected. We sincerely appreciate the feedback we get from customers so we can continue to improve these new, industry-leading tools. During an outage, you can also call our customer service number (1-888-225-5773) to report an outage by phone.



Crews work to restore power on Bainbridge after one of this month's snowstorms.

Being prepared for inclement weather

PSE is committed to providing safe and reliable power to our customers. We know it is difficult and unsafe for our customers to be without power, which is why PSE is dedicated to keeping customers informed with early alerts and quick responses to restore power after an outage. To stay safe in the event of an outage, customers can do the following: have an emergency plan, create an emergency kit and learn more about outage notifications.

As the potential for inclement weather continues, it is important to stay prepared for an emergency. It's best to create a safety plan and an emergency kit before a power outage or a natural disaster strikes to help keep you and your family safe and comfortable. Basic items to include are water and food to last from 7 to 10 days, flashlights, a battery-powered radio and a first aid kit. Preparing multiple kits for your home, work and vehicle can also help you stay safe if you become stranded. Read more about creating an [emergency kit](#) or an [emergency plan](#) on our website.

PSE sends out notifications for outages and emergencies via mobile alerts. [Check your account preferences](#) on your online account to ensure you are receiving alerts. Outage notifications will inform you if your power goes out, estimated time for power restoration and when your power is restored.



Left to right: BYS Executive Director Cezanne Allan, PSE Community Projects Manager Renee Zimmerman, PSE Outreach Coordinator David Parker Brown and BYS Board President Tom McCloskey stand with the Powerful Partnership check.

Powerful Partner: Bainbridge Youth Services

We are excited to announce that PSE is working with [Bainbridge Youth Services](#) (BYS) as a [Powerful Partner](#) in 2019. PSE is committed to fostering long-term relationships with organizations in the communities we serve and has selected BYS as a partner in Kitsap County.

PSE is donating \$10,000 to BYS and will work with the BYS Board of Directors on emergency preparedness and energy efficiency. BYS is in process of remodeling their new location next to Bainbridge High School and is working with PSE's Energy Management Engineer Rich Perlot to make their new facility more energy efficient. The new building is expected to be operational by the end of this summer.

Bainbridge Youth Services has served Bainbridge Island and Kitsap County communities for the last 50 years. BYS is dedicated to advocating for the social and emotional health of youth and young adults by providing one-on-one counseling. BYS launched a new website, [AskBYS.org](#), to support youth and young adults who wish to remain completely anonymous when using BYS services. Visit the [PSE](#) and [BYS](#) websites to learn more about our Powerful Partnerships and the great work BYS does in the Bainbridge Island community.



Lower Snake Ridge Wind Facility in Garfield County.

Sign up for our renewable programs!

PSE is proud to offer renewable energy programs for Bainbridge customers to keep sustainability within reach and reduce their carbon footprint. These options include Solar Choice, Green Power and Customer Connected Solar.

[Green Power](#) provides customers with the option of matching some or all of their energy usage with renewable power. Green Power is sourced from resources that are naturally replenishing like solar, hydro and wind power rather than fossil fuels. Choosing these energy resources helps dramatically lower pollution. Similar to Green Power, [Solar Choice](#) matches some or all of the power you use with clean solar energy. Solar Choice uses 100 percent solar power generated here in Washington and our neighbor, Idaho.

To further help customers reduce their carbon footprint, [Customer Connected Solar](#) allows PSE customers to generate their own power with solar array installations on their property. Visit our [website](#) for information if you are interested in installing solar power at your home.



First picture: Karen Brubeck (right) presents a check to Maria Metzler (left), Executive Director of Helpline House. Second picture: David Parker Brown (left) and Renee Zimmerman (right) present a check to Maria Metzler (center).

Karen Brubeck moves to new role at PSE

Longtime Bainbridge Island resident and Outreach Manager for Kitsap County, Karen Brubeck, recently accepted a new position at PSE. Karen's work for PSE for the past four years focused heavily on the island, working with residents on renewable energy programs, energy efficiency, emergency preparedness, corporate giving and as the local PSE Foundation liaison.

Filling this important role are David Parker Brown, Outreach Coordinator for Kitsap County, and Renee Zimmerman, Community Projects Manager. Look for an introduction of David and Renee in the next newsletter!

"The thing I loved the most about the job was being able to bring innovative renewable energy programs, projects and opportunities to Bainbridge Island," Karen says. Karen led the efforts with the [HORSE digester](#) pilot project, the community digester discussion and worked with the City of Bainbridge Island to help the city earn three awards from the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), including 2017's [Green Power Community of the Year](#). In addition, the renewable energy outreach on the island for PSE's Green Power and Solar Choice Programs has catapulted Bainbridge into the #1 spot for participation in PSE's programs by percentage of the population.

In her new role as Community Projects Manager for the PSE New Products Team, Karen is now working on PSE's suite of electric car pilot programs that will be rolled out over the next couple of years.

PSE is lucky to have dedicated staff like Karen, Renee and David who live in the cities and communities we serve. While Karen has moved to a new role at PSE, she hasn't left Bainbridge—be sure to say "hi" when you see her around the Island!

Follow us on Facebook

PSE has a [Facebook page](#) for our work on Bainbridge Island. Be sure to like and follow us to keep informed about PSE on Bainbridge Island!

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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 or call us toll-free at **1-888-878-8632**.

Thank you,

Your PSE Bainbridge Team

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