PSE on bainbridge island



PSE Bainbridge Update • July 2022



Pictured: Puget Sound Energy's largest hydropower facility is the Baker River Hydroelectric Project, located on a tributary of the Skagit River in northwest Washington. Read below about PSE's newly renovated Baker River Visitor Center.

Read on for details on PSE awarding a solar grant to the Suquamish Tribe, the schedule for the Murden Cove - Winslow 115 kV Transmission Line Project, how to store your own battery power, the results of the Bainbridge Island Rotary Auction and Rummage Sale, and more! Thank you for reading!

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Pictured: Solar array, funded by PSE's Green Power Solar Grant program, constructed on the roof of the Suquamish Tribe's ?iišədal?txw ?ə ti suqwabš, or Family & Friends Center. Photo provided by Sphere Solar Energy.

PSE awards a solar grant to the Suquamish Tribe

We're proud to award the Suquamish Tribe \$101,164 in grant funding to help build a 32.6 kW solar array on the Suquamish Family & Friends Center, or ?iišədal?txw ?ə ti sudwabš in the Tribe's Lushootseed language.

The funding, given as part of PSE's 2021-2022 Green Power Solar Grant program, will generate an estimated 29,956 kWh annually, offsetting an estimated 77% of the Family & Friends Center's annual consumption. The result: clean energy lowers operating costs through lower utility bills.

"We are thrilled to see our Family & Friends Center now getting literally energized by the power of the sun," said Barb Santos, Suquamish Tribal Member and director of the Family & Friends Center. "Protecting the environment and fighting climate change are Suquamish values. Solar power is playing an increasingly important role on both fronts. We are proud to be part of that effort."

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solar project are installed and will be operational this summer.

Since 2019, PSE's <u>Green Power Solar Grant program</u> has awarded more than \$3 million to fund 48 new, local solar projects for nonprofits, public housing authorities and tribal entities serving low-income and/or BIPOC community members. The program is made possible by our <u>Green Power</u> and <u>Solar Choice</u> customers.

Investing in electric reliability and grid modernization - project updates

It's no secret electric reliability on Bainbridge Island needs to be improved. In finding solutions, PSE is committed to exploring new technologies. Our proposed plan is a <u>unique</u> <u>solution designed for Bainbridge Island</u> – combining new technologies and grid infrastructure to ensure safe, dependable power for families and businesses for years to come. We will partner with the community to implement these solutions.

Murden Cove - Winslow 115kV Transmission Line project schedule

PSE launched the <u>Murden Cove – Winslow "Missing Link" 115 kV Transmission Line</u> <u>Project</u> and began engaging the Bainbridge Island community in late 2019. Following the formation of a Community Sounding Board and multiple public engagement events and comment periods, a transmission line route was selected and announced to the community in fall 2021.

This summer, PSE is continuing ongoing fieldwork and engineering, real estate planning, and permitting for the project. We will inform adjacent property owners of upcoming work directly as we progress. We expect the new transmission line to be in service in 2026. The project timeline is subject to change and will be kept up to date as the project continues.

Battery storage projects and storing your own power

We are testing new energy technology – like battery storage – to reduce the demand for power and transition to a clean energy future for all. Over the past several months, we

those projects here.

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Batteries can provide temporary backup power during an outage and store excess electricity from rooftop solar. If you are interested in storing your own power, PSE offers installation guidelines on our <u>website</u>. Visit our battery storage <u>FAQ</u> for more information.

PSE on Bainbridge Island

PSE feels strongly about being a good neighbor. One way we do this is through our philanthropic commitment and partnerships with the nonprofits and organizations in the communities we serve.



Bainbridge Island Auction & Rummage Sale – The results are in!

The 2022 Rotary Auction & Rummage Sale, and its return to an in-person sale at Woodward Middle School, was a huge success! This year the event raised \$729,386!

to sponsors, to donors of items, to shoppers. Fifteen PSE employees volunteered in support of donation drop-off by greeting residents, unloading items from donors' cars and sorting thousands of donations. PSE is proud to be a long-time sponsor of this event!

As always, 100% of the event's net proceeds will be used to fund:

- grants to nonprofit organizations in the region
- community improvement projects
- humanitarian projects in other parts of the world
- scholarships to high school seniors who demonstrate 'service above self'

For more information, visit the Rotary Club of Bainbridge Island's Auction and Rummage Sale <u>website</u>.



Pictured: Michael Birkhead receives his prize from PSE's Matt Perry, flanked by Jessica Perkins Miller and Stefan Goldby of the Bainbridge Chamber, and Rachel Knudson of Scrappy Art Lab (holding the winning entry).

Michael Birkhead wins grand prize of Grand Old 4th poster contest

This year's Bainbridge Island Chamber of Commerce Grand Old 4th Poster Contest Grand Prize Winner is Michael Birkhead! Dozens of young Islanders entered the contest this year –through their schools, via special open sessions at Winslow's Scrappy Art Lab, and as solo home-based efforts. Birkhead won a \$500 cash prize to support his artistic

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For more information, visit the Bainbridge Island Chamber of Commerce webpage.

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Bainbridge Island Studio Tour

PSE is proud to support the 22nd annual Summer Studio Tour on Bainbridge Island. The tour takes place August 12 – 14, with 38 artists on hand showcasing their work in four local venues. The Tour is known for a variety of quality hand-crafted artwork, and the summer show includes pottery, acrylics, glass, jewelry, photography, oil paintings, watercolors, wearables, metal sculpture, garden art and more.

BIStudioTour.com

"I'm so excited for this year's Summer Studio Tour! We have such resilient artists in Washington and such talent," said Tour Manager Dinah Satterwhite. "We jury each artist carefully and hear so many compliments from customers who appreciate fine quality hand-made art at show prices. Functional or decorative, we have a great variety. And PSE Bainbridge July Update

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Be sure to check out all four studios to get original art directly from the artist. Bring a friend and spend the day. Studios are open 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. on Friday and Saturday, and 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. on Sunday.

The Studio Tour is a free self-guided tour. For complete details including a list of studios, artists, photos and a map, visit <u>www.bistudiotour.com</u>. Brochures can be downloaded from the website or found at the Bainbridge Island Chamber of Commerce. For more information or to receive a brochure in the mail, call Tour Manager Dinah Satterwhite at 206-842-0504.



The U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary asks you to mark your small craft

The U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary of North Kitsap is urging you to mark your paddle craft, like kayaks or paddle boards, and properly secure them.

The Coast Guard treats every distress call and report of an unmanned paddle craft as if a real life is at stake. Reports of adrift paddle craft can divert response boats and air crews on dangerous and costly searches that turn out to be false alarms.

"Unmanned adrift vessel search and rescue responses are the number four response activity in the Coast Guard nationwide," said Dan Shipman, recreational boating program specialist for the 13th District. "By properly securing your small craft, on the beach, dock or your vessel from being set adrift, you're not only saving taxpayers' dollars, you are also helping protect your property, the environment and possibly, the life of someone who is actually in need of assistance.

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The Coast Guard urges the public to do the following three things:

Help us help you find your kayak. Mark It! Take responsibility for your paddle craft by labeling it with an 'If Found' sticker. This label allows responders to confirm if someone is actually in trouble and collect information to help search efforts. To request free "If Found" stickers, email <u>iffoundsticker@d13cgaux.net</u> and provide your name, mailing address and the number of stickers required.

Take responsibility for recovering your paddle craft. Unmanned and adrift kayaks, canoes, dinghies and rowboats often cause hazards to navigation in the waterway and increase the level of risk and fatigue on response crews tasked to find the owners associated with the unmanned paddle craft.

Do your part to prevent false alarms. First responders deployed in search of unmanned paddle craft divert resources away from actual lives in distress.

For more information about the U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary, visit their website.

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Pictured: The June ribbon cutting at the newly renovated Lower Baker Dam Visitor Center.

Lower Baker Dam Visitor Center and dayuse park reopen after renovations

Puget Sound Energy's Baker River Hydroelectric Project in Concrete, WA, has a newly renovated visitor center known as the Club House and a new day-use park at the Lake Shannon Boat Ramp.

The renovated Club House features exhibits addressing the evolution of the site and its history as well as PSE history in the region. Certain spaces are preserved for visitors to interpret the structure and its stories.

The location of the Club House is a historical site that once contained industrial buildings and remnants of a 20th-century cement factory. PSE repurposed the 1914 concrete building constructed by Washington Portland Cement Company into the Baker River Club House Visitor Center. The facility is a gateway to access the unique recreational opportunities the Baker River dam has to offer so visitors can enjoy and appreciate the area's abundant cultural and natural resources. The Club House is now open and regular hours will be Wednesday to Sunday from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. during the summer.

About three miles up the road from the Club House are the Lake Shannon Boat ramp and a new day-use park that offers guests a large picnic shelter with picnic tables, three barbecue grills and six small picnic sites with tables. PSE also installed around a quarter of a mile of sidewalks and trails featuring native restoration landscaping. The day-use park will be open from 7 a.m. to 9 p.m. daily from now through October 31. It will be closed to drive-in traffic from November 1 through April 14 annually. Commission (FERC) License agreement to create a better area for visitors. The 50-year operating license was issued to PSE in October of 2008. Learn more about the Baker River Hydroelectric Project by visiting <u>www.pse.com/pages/hydro-licensing/licensing-baker-river-project</u>.

Follow us on Facebook

PSE has a <u>Facebook page</u> for our work on Bainbridge Island. Be sure to like and follow us to stay informed about PSE on Bainbridge Island! Connect with us on **Facebook**

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 <u>info@psebainbridge.com</u> or call us at **1-888-878-8632**.

Thank you, Your PSE Bainbridge Team

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