

**PSE** on bainbridge island



PSE Bainbridge Update • September 2022



Pictured: Puget Sound Energy's Wild Horse Wind and Solar Facility in Kittitas County, the largest solar facility in the region.

Read on for more information about capacity and reliability on Bainbridge Island, an exciting announcement from the Bainbridge Island Land Trust, recognition for a PSE Troublemaker and essential worker, and upcoming fundraisers for local non-profits!

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## Reliability vs. capacity: How PSE will meet Bainbridge Island's growing needs

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development, new technologies and grid resiliency. What is the difference between reliability and capacity, and how does this impact customers on Bainbridge Island?

A reliable system ensures that when you flip your light switch, the light turns on. Reliability is the performance of the system when bringing electricity to customers – generally, the more resilient and redundant the system is, the higher the reliability is. The island today faces a number of challenges when it comes to reliability, including geography, trees, weather and limited redundancy.

Capacity refers to whether the system can meet the current demand for power. Population growth and changing electrical needs, like the [electrification of Washington State Ferries' fleet](#), can strain capacity. Seasonal temperatures can also impact energy demand. Bainbridge Island is winter peaking, meaning customers demand the most energy in the winter months to keep their homes, schools and businesses warm.

PSE's [hybrid solutions package](#) will improve both electric reliability and capacity on Bainbridge Island. In addition to PSE's investments in [distribution system](#) reliability, the [Murden Cove – Winslow 115 kV transmission line](#) and the [Winslow Tap transmission rebuild](#) will add needed redundancy and resilience to the island's transmission system. The new [Battery Energy Storage System](#) and upgrades to existing substations will increase the system's capacity to meet growing energy needs. In addition, PSE will continue to partner with customers to reduce demand through energy efficiency and demand response programs.

PSE is combining new technologies and grid infrastructure to ensure safe, dependable power for families and businesses for years to come.

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## 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 Land Trust announces additional protected land near Manzanita Bay

Did you know that natural shorelines make Bainbridge Island more resilient to the impacts of climate change? With over 60% of the island's shoreline developed, protecting and restoring shorelines is a high priority for the Bainbridge Island Land Trust.

For example, Little Manzanita Bay is home to coho salmon, cutthroat trout and more. Furthermore, its estuary (the area where the freshwater stream mixes with saltwater at the entrance to the bay) is one of two unaltered areas of its kind on the entire island. With the support of the community, the Land Trust protected this undisturbed landscape as the 13-acre Miller-Kirkman Preserve in 2017.

Thanks to the ongoing Stand for the Land campaign, the Land Trust is excited to announce the protection of the 10 acres immediately north of the preserve! This new acquisition includes a 787-foot stretch of North Fork Manzanita Creek and a rich wetland complex and forest - providing ample room for young salmon to grow into strong, healthy adults.

These salmon head out to Puget Sound and beyond as adults, then return to spawn here on the island. Little Manzanita Bay exemplifies the importance of conservation on Bainbridge Island for the greater Puget Sound ecosystem. "Our community is playing a direct role in the region's salmon recovery efforts," said Cullen Brady, Executive Director of

landscapes focused around Little Manzanita Bay.” This property is currently not open to the public.

PSE congratulates the Land Trust on the conservation success!



## Rotary high school intern honors PSE essential worker David Whitbeck

The Bainbridge Island Rotary Club, through its Community Awards Committee, manages a creative program whereby local essential service workers are recognized for their important roles within the community. For this program, Bainbridge High School interns take journalistic training sessions with professional writers and editors, identify essential workers to interview and write a human interest story on the worker's background and work within the community.

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rotary club meeting and sharing about their internship experience, the important work of their chosen essential worker and presenting a commemorative plaque to their awardee. The interns' articles are also published in the local newspaper to recognize the workers for their outstanding essential service to the community. You can read these pieces in the [Bainbridge Island Review](#).

This year, Rotary intern Graham Goll profiled PSE Troublemaker David Whitbeck. Troublemakers at PSE are IBEW Journeyman Linemen with many years of experience working on the electric grid. They are the first to respond to emergency calls from customers – they respond immediately, troubleshoot the problem, make repairs if possible or call in a line crew to make more extensive repairs. Troublemakers also have daily scheduled work with PSE customers.

Graham said “getting to know David Whitbeck was an honor, as was having the chance to educate myself and others about an essential service too many of us take for granted. Our entire community runs—as literally as I can put it—on Puget Sound Energy, and I offer as much gratitude as I'm able to give to every worker who spends each day ensuring that electricity is accessible, every home remains warm and people feel safe, even when the lights begin to flicker. I am indebted to Mr. Whitbeck and his coworkers and I have no doubt in my mind they are all deserving of such an award commending their dedication, hard work and achievement.”

Roan Blacker, the Community Awards Committee Chair, said “this program is a fabulous way for us to involve a high school internship experience within our club's honoring key essential service workers in our area. The interns get incredible writing and public speaking experience and the acknowledged workers receive community-wide recognition.” PSE is proud of our partnership with the Rotary Club of Bainbridge Island.

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## Call to the Wild Gala Auction

On October 1, the [West Sound Wildlife Shelter](#) (WSWS) will host the Call to the Wild Gala Auction at Kiana Lodge in Poulsbo. This is the 18th annual event and the funds raised provide lifesaving services, including veterinary and rehabilitation care to over 1,800 wildlife patients every year. The shelter is proudly celebrating its 30-year anniversary of caring for wildlife!

WSWS is the Kitsap Peninsula's only wildlife rehabilitation hospital and also provides human/wildlife conflict resolution services. The shelter responds to over 7,000 phone calls annually, 365 days a year!

Prior to the school closures during the COVID pandemic, WSWS reached over 15,000 local school-aged children annually through live animal education programs. This powerful and long-lasting enrichment offers students an up-close glimpse into the lives of wild animals. WSWS is looking forward to heading back to the classrooms!

"We thank Puget Sound Energy for the support of the Call to the Wild Gala Auction, as it is our most important fundraiser of the year, providing the funding for a large percentage of the Shelter's annual operating budget," noted Lisa Horn, Executive Director.

For more information and to register for the Call to the Wild Gala Auction, [visit their website](#). PSE is proud to support the important work of the West Sound Wildlife Shelter!



# BAINBRIDGE SCHOOLS FOUNDATION

## Bridging The Gap

### Bainbridge Schools Foundation kicks off fall fundraising campaign

Public schools on Bainbridge Island are widely recognized for their excellence. Ask new families what brought them to the island and there is no surprise when strong public schools account for a major consideration in their decision to move. What does come as a surprise is that while the island's outstanding public schools consistently rank among the top in the state, Bainbridge Island School District (BISD) receives significantly less funding per student than Mercer Island, Seattle, North Kitsap and Bremerton. Despite receiving state and federal funding (measured by free and reduced lunch numbers in the local community) and robust PTO support, a significant gap remains in covering the cost of educating every student on Bainbridge Island.

Formed in 2006 by merging two local, like-minded non-profit organizations, the Bainbridge Schools Foundation (BSF) has a singular mission to bridge the gap left by insufficient government funding at every level in the district. BSF pledges its funds annually to BISD and works in close partnership with the district to ensure its funding reaches 100% of BISD students, kindergarten through 12th grade.

BSF's funding priorities include student support, educator support and innovative programming. Programs supported by BSF comprise academic interventionists (to support students), a mentorship program for new teachers (to support educators) and STEM (an example of innovative programming that was piloted and funded by BSF).

The BSF Bridge-a-Thon fall campaign kicks off on October 1. Visit [BSF to learn more about bridging the gap and to make a gift](#). PSE is proud to support the important work BSF does for students, families and educators in the community.

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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](mailto:info@psebainbridge.com) or call us at **1-888-878-8632**.

Thank you,  
Your PSE Bainbridge Team

September 2022 •  
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