

PUGET SOUND ENERGY PIONEER AWARD

Recognizing exceptional community leadership and involvement



Established in 2003, the Puget Sound Energy Pioneer Award recognizes an individual each year nominated by a committee of local peers who has demonstrated selfless leadership and vision resulting in long lasting public benefit and progress within PSE's service area. The Pioneer Award acknowledges leaders who personify the true spirit of public service, community partnership and involvement, and who work to build a better future for others. As part of the award, PSE dedicates and installs a natural gas lamp in honor of the recipient in their community of public service.

The following people have been recognized with the Pioneer Award for illuminating the path for many:

2008: Karen and Ralph Munro
Thurston County

Long-time community activists, Karen and Ralph Munro are the first couple to receive the Pioneer Award. They are being recognized for their numerous contributions to education and the environment, as well as their philanthropic involvement with many art and humanities organizations throughout the Puget Sound region. Their gas lamp will be installed later this year in the Thurston County area.

2006: Hartwig H. Vatheur
Kittitas County

A retired Plum Creek Timber executive, Hartwig H. Vatheur was honored for his civic leadership and the work he did to preserve the upper Kittitas County river corridor. His natural gas lamp will be installed in downtown Cle Elem this year.

2005: Norman S. McLoughlin
Kitsap County

The executive director of Kitsap County Consolidated Housing Authority, Norm McLoughlin was recognized for his work on Bremerton's downtown revitalization and for helping to create more affordable housing in Kitsap County. His natural gas lamp was installed on the waterfront side of the Harborside Condominiums in Bremerton.

2004: John W. Ellis
King County

Former chairman and chief executive officer of Puget Sound Power & Light, John W. Ellis was honored for his leadership and long civic involvement in the King County area. His natural gas lamp was installed in the Bellevue Downtown Park, which Ellis helped to create.

2003: Erling O. Mork
Pierce County

Former Tacoma city manager and economic-development chief, the late Erling Mork was the first recipient of the PSE Pioneer Award. He was recognized for his efforts to build a stronger South Sound community. His natural gas lamp is located outside of the Convention Center in downtown Tacoma.



Steve Reynolds, left, and award recipient John Ellis at the dedication of the 2004 Pioneer Award gas lamp, installed September 2005 at the Bellevue Downtown Park.

**An award was not designated in 2007.*