

TOM & KATHY HANSEN

ENVIRONMENTALISTS OF THE YEAR

Moving to Bainbridge Island from Texas 15 years ago, Tom and Kathy Hansen first viewed the finfish net pens in the waters of Rich Passage below their Fort Ward Hill home as minor nuisances.



With a degree in psychology and an MBA (Tom) and broadcast journalism and an MBA (Kathy), neither was trained in marine ecology or biology. But as they watched the activities at the industrial operation, they became concerned with what they were seeing.

Using their skills which had taught them to think critically, to plan and to organize, the Hansens began to document violations of Washington State regulations regarding aquatic activities under the Departments of Natural Resources, Fish and Wildlife, and Ecology.

Their photos and videos provided support for the eventual removal of the net pens from Washington waters.

ENVIRONMENTALIST OF THE YEAR PAST AWARD WINNERS

1991	Janet Knox	2007	Jim Brennan
1992	Vince Mattson	2008	Lew & Lois Andrus
1993	Linda Schmid	2009	Jo Schaffer
1994	Sheila Crofut	2010	Bob & Rachel Smith
1995	Bainbridge Island Land Trust	2011	Wayne Daley
1996	Leigh Kennel	2012	Bob Burkholder
1997	Dale Spoor	2014	Olaf Ribeiro
1998	Dave Davison	2017	Maradel Gale
1999	Road Ends Committee	2018	Jeannette Franks
2000	Frank Stowell	2019	Deb Rudnick
2001	Connie Waddington	2020	Charles Schmid
2003	Van Calvez	2022	Barb Trafton
		2023	Lara Hansen
		2024	Christine Perkins

Scan for past
conferences



Welcome to the 2025



NATURE COUNTS!

Island Biodiversity
and Preparing for the
City Nature Challenge



Sunday, April 13
1-4 p.m.
IslandWood

Presented by



Schedule of Events

1-2	Welcome Environmentalists of the Year Award Kathy and Tom Hansen, honorees, presented by Maradel Gale Keynote Speakers Megan Rohrssen (Bainbridge Island Land Trust) and Christina Woolf (IslandWood) – <i>Nature Counts! The why, what, and how of community environmental science on Bainbridge Island</i>	Great Hall
2-2:30	Refreshments & Tabling Visit tables for information about Island organisms and ecosystems, and learn how to use the iNaturalist community science app	Welcome Center
2:30-4	Guided Walking Taxa Tours Learn how to make and record observations about organisms and ecosystems	IslandWood trails

Resources

iNaturalist app

To participate in today's conference and the City Nature Challenge, download iNaturalist app to your smartphone from the Apple iOS or Android app stores



City Nature Challenge

Scan to participate in the City Nature Challenge on Bainbridge Island and in Kitsap County



Taxa Teams & Tables

LEARN ABOUT ISLAND BIODIVERSITY, MAKE AND RECORD OBSERVATIONS IN THE FIELD

Follow your curiosity, try out a community science app, and learn from team leaders' experience and expertise. Guided walks begin at 2:30. If hitting the trails isn't for you, explore tables and learn how you can participate in community science from home!

Plants Team – Join team leaders from the Bloedel Reserve and Weed Warriors to discover the plants and natural systems around you. Bloedel Reserve also boasts active community science projects in amphibian, bat, and bird monitoring.

Insects & Stream Bugs Team – Join The Bumpers - David Onstad, Dawn Dockter, and Mark Webb - to explore the IslandWood trails and experience excellent entomological education. The Bumpers are a group of dedicated entomology volunteers active throughout Kitsap and with the PNW Bumble Bee Atlas Project.

Reptiles & Amphibians Team – Kathryn Arnold - IslandWood docent, newt crossing guard, and avid amphibian community scientist in the Woodland Park Zoo's Amphibians of Washington Project - will guide you to great places on IslandWood's trails for your amphibian observations. She will be joined by Tom Woolf, Washington Master Naturalist.

Fungus Among Us Team – Join members of the Kitsap Peninsula Mycological Society to learn about the fascinating world of mycology. Since 1972, KPMS has supported members to study, collect and appreciate fungi, and to share knowledge with the community.

Birding Team – Join Kevin Eyre and the Kitsap Audubon Society to look and listen for birds on IslandWood's trails. Members of Kitsap Audubon participate in seasonal and ongoing citizen science projects, such as Climate Watch, Pigeon Guillemot surveys, coastal seabird monitoring, Christmas Bird Count, and Puget Sound Seabird Survey.

Marine Biology Table – Learn about local sea life with Bainbridge Beach Naturalists and hear about their experience monitoring for invasive green crab, conducting plankton surveys, and monitoring for sea star wasting syndrome.

Info & How-To Table – Want ideas for where to go to observe local species? Want to see how to participate in community science from home? Need tips on how to use iNaturalist? General tech support? All questions welcome! Come talk with BI Parks & Trails Foundation and BI Park & Recreation District.