

Biographies of KEC Nominees, October 2023

Board of Directors

Paul Larson

Paul Larson and his wife Jayne have lived in Indianola, Kitsap County, for the past 13 years. Paul was raised in a small town in Vermont where he came to appreciate the natural world. Paul joined the Navy in 1970 after which he graduated from San Diego State University then worked in the aerospace industry in Southern California for 31 years. After retirement Paul and Jayne moved to Indianola and within a year began taking University of Washington Extension classes including Native Plants and Beach Naturalist. For the past 12 years Paul has been volunteering as a Steward at North Kitsap Heritage Park (NKHP) and as a Trustee/treasurer for the Indianola Beach Improvement Club a 501(c)(3) community club. Paul participated in creating the NKHP Forest Stewardship Plan and the NKHP Master Plan/Stewardship Plan which would preserve the NKHP as a natural open space for the future generations of human and animal residents of Kitsap County. Paul is excited to have the opportunity to join the KEC's board of directors to help guide its efforts in protecting Kitsap County's environments.

David Onstad

David Onstad and his wife Dawn Dockter have lived in Kitsap County for two years in both Poulsbo and now Port Orchard. He was a professor of insect ecology and pest management for 26 years and then worked in the agrichemical and seed industry for 11 years until retirement in April 2023. He has been a treasurer of 4 non-profit organizations, including Treasurer of KEC since May. David is passionate about protecting KC Heritage Parks. This year he helped evaluate the County's COMP Plan, PROS Plan, and Critical Areas Ordinances. He would like your vote to start his first full term as Board member.

Steering Committee

Marion Allen

Marion Allen is a wife, mother, and a biologist. She grew up in Oregon and lived in Leavenworth and Quilcene as well as Hagerman and Boise, Idaho. For the last 35 years, Poulsbo has been her home. A true Northwesterner, she worked as a clinical microbiologist and retired from Harborview Medical Center in Seattle. Her favorite travels include Australia, New Zealand, Hawaii, and most of all southeastern Utah. Since retirement she has been involved in our local parks as a forest steward and volunteer, Great Peninsula Conservancy (GPC) volunteer with a special love of Port Gamble Forest Heritage Park (PGFHP). She has logged hundreds of miles hiking PGFHP. In the last year, she spearheaded the launch of Kitsap County Native Plants Facebook group that now has over a thousand members. She enjoys leading hikes for them

around the county. Her involvement with Kitsap Environmental Coalition (KEC) began in the spring of 2023 with inspiration from Beth Nichols.

Doug Hayman

Doug Hayman has been with the Kitsap Environmental Coalition since the beginning days. He has taken part in Kitsap County's Critical Areas Ordinance Update process acting as the KEC working group representative during the Fish and Wildlife session. He is active in work to hold the county in compliance with Critical Area protections. Doug likes to remove invasive English Ivy from nearby trees having done that on over 400 trees in Indianola in public lands and on the largest Great Peninsula Conservancy parcel in the area where he is a GPC steward. He has also actively worked to protect the North Kitsap Heritage Park from being degraded with a proposed paved path that would damage the environment and cost taxpayers millions of dollars. Doug has worked in the field of assistive technology which has served the needs of people with disabilities since 1996.

Joe Lubischer

Joe Lubischer is a twenty-year Indianola resident, fifth decade in Kitsap County, and a steward at the Indianola Waterfront & Woodland Preserve and also North Kitsap Heritage Park. For the latter park, he served several years as stewardship chair and actively promotes environmental restoration and soft trails. He is a retired engineer with experience in water resources, but mountains and woodworking are constant draws.

Bruce McCain

Bruce has a PhD in microbiology, and retired in 2005 after working for NOAA Fisheries, a Federal agency, as a program manager for 30 years. Most of his research concerned the effects of pollution on marine fish. Much of his team's research was conducted in Puget Sound. For the last 10 years of his career, he was a facility manager at a large NOAA facility in Newport, OR. He has been involved with various environmental groups in Kitsap County for the last 10 years. Bruce currently is a member of the KEC Board and the Steering Committee seeking his second term on the Steering Committee.

Elizabeth Nichols

Beth has lived in Kitsap County, in the same house in Indianola since 1986. Beth worked as a nurse over a long career, including as a community health nurse for the Port Gamble S'Klallam Tribe. She has recently switched careers – now working as a library assistant for Kitsap Regional Library. Beth likes to use her writing skills to educate, and to challenge elected officials and agencies to do better in the realm of environmental protection. She is currently learning about the land use policies and critical areas ordinances of Kitsap County and how to work more effectively to protect this special place along the Salish Sea.

April Ryan

April Ryan has lived in Kingston since 2014 after retiring from a 25-year career as a Senior Computer Specialist in Graphic Design at the University of Washington. There, she specialized in data visualization for scientific research across various disciplines, including environmental studies, using multiple media such as print publications, animation, and television. Since moving "out to the country," April has been learning about the local history and geography, beginning with a Stream Stewardship class given by WSU-extension, exploring the area's countryside, waters, and trails, and volunteering for Stillwaters and NKHP. April values the natural environment and aims to improve public awareness of and access to it through active participation in community planning. She is familiarizing herself with the area's various plans and ordinances and is currently involved in legal efforts to prevent/minimize damage to the Appletree Cove watershed.

Dave Shorett

Dave Shorett has been a lawyer in Washington State since 1970, primarily as a trial lawyer handling a variety of cases in local courts, US District Court and the Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals. He presently serves as a Judge in the Suquamish Court of Appeals. Born in Seattle, he graduated from Whitman College and law school in Boston, he has lived in Kitsap County for 43 years. He has written 5 fishing books and wrote a fishing column in the Kitsap Sun for 5 years. He has long been active in land acquisition for public use, served as Parks Commissioner for Bainbridge Island for 15 years; is a founding member of the reorganized Bainbridge Island Parks and Trails foundation; member of the Island's Open Space Commission; long time member of the Land Trust's Projects Committee; Board member of the Friends of the Farms; member of the Wyckoff Committee; and served on other committees.

Dave believes that what makes Kitsap County a great place to live is its natural areas, shorelines, lakes, relatively undisturbed flora and fauna. Kitsap County has the opportunity to control its growth, provide attractive urban areas with all amenities, including parks and recreation, while at the same time protecting much of its great natural lands, streams, lakes and shorelines in perpetuity.