

February 2, 2024 - A Tale of Battery Backup Systems

The tower is up on E. Marrowstone Road with radios in place. See photo. This shot was taken January 11 before noon. We were tuning the new equipment in the new shed mounted at the foot of the tower. This new shed also contains one of our automatic battery 4-day backup systems for the tower radio Access Points.

Note the dark cloud in the background... Yup, it was the big snow storm that also brought an extended PUD power outage to the Island. 4 days later we switched over operations from our old gear on the PUD pole to this new small tower with the big battery backup system...

To complete battery backup coverage of our full Nordland radio network we must install two more of these 4-day battery backup systems. One at the site of the small tower behind the Nordland store. We hope to complete this installation during this month of February. The third system will be installed in March.



Once we have the Nordland area battery backups in place we will work on the Meade Hill and Smith Road battery backup system installs. There are 3 more systems needed to cover that area.

So, you may ask; “How do I take advantage of the availability of Marrowstone Wireless Internet Access during power outages if I do not have an emergency generator?”

Basically, you need to supply power to both our radio that is mounted outside your home and your inside WiFi router. These two devices do not need much power to run but, because you want to have them running for days, a battery backup system with the capacity to supply 50 watts/hour for at least 48 hours will give you two days of operation in your house...

Power for your computers, TVs, cell phones, etc. are not included in this and need to have their own power sources.

Once you have a battery backup system for your radio and router in place, a simple plan to keep you connected could be having cigar lighter charger cords for cell phones and laptops to recharge from your vehicle...

Peace, David

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