

ACCOMPLISHMENTS 2010

ALBANY DEPARTMENT OF WATER AND WATER SUPPLY

1. The City of Albany won first prize at the State Fair for the Best Tasting Drinking Water in New York State. This is the second time since 2007 that Albany has taken top honors in this prestigious statewide competition. Albany beat out finalist from all across the State including New York City, and competitors from northern, western, and central New York, and from right here in the Capital District.
2. The Water Department's preventive maintenance program has produced extraordinary results in substantially reducing the number of water main and service breaks. Since 1996, the number of breaks has been reduced by 75 percent, a major accomplishment for a system as old as Albany's. With 376 miles of water mains—55 miles installed in the 19th Century—it is imperative that the City continues to maintain and upgrade the system.
3. Using the latest high-tech equipment, the Water Department has found 173 hidden underground leaks which, left undiscovered, would have continued to waste valuable drinking water and also pose potential issues with future ground collapses. The Water Department will continue to check each mile of the 376 miles of water mains looking for potential leaks.
4. More than \$1.5 million has been spent to reduce street, yard, and basement flooding in various problem areas throughout the city, including Rose Court, Dartmouth Street, Holmes Court, Edgecomb Street, Melrose Avenue, Eileen Street, Clermont Street, Rosemont Street, North Pine, Washington Avenue, Hansen, Ryckman Avenue, and Academy Road, to name a few. All reports indicate that these projects have been successful, significantly reducing flooding.
5. The Department's backwater valve program to reduce basement flooding has been highly successful, with more than 234 valves approved to date. Due to the success of the program, Mayor Jennings has extended it through 2011.