

# CITY OF ALBANY



## OFFICE OF THE MAYOR

**Gerald D. Jennings**  
MAYOR

**Philip F. Calderone**  
DEPUTY MAYOR

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# PRESS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
May 23, 2011

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## ALBANY WATER JUDGED ONE OF FIVE BEST TASTING IN AMERICA

Albany, NY – The City of Albany's drinking water has been selected as one of the five best tasting City waters in America during a blind taste test in Washington, D.C. sponsored by the United States Conference of Mayors. The five finalists will compete in June for the coveted "best tasting City water in America" during the group's annual meeting in Baltimore.

"This is a tremendous honor for the City of Albany," Mayor Gerald D. Jennings said after receiving the news. "Albany loves its drinking water and we are enormously proud that the rest of America understands what a national treasure we have right here in our own City."

The select panel of judges included Keith Castaldo, Counsel and Economic Advisor to Rep. Bill Pascrell (NJ); Justin Field, staff to Senator Robert Menendez (NJ); Nancy Stoner, Acting Administrator for the United States Environmental Protection Agency's Office of Water; Ben Grumbles, Former Assistant Administrator for EPA's Office of Water; and, Michael Deane, Executive Director, National Association of Water Companies.

"I am very proud of the hardworking men and women of the Albany Water Department who made this possible," said Albany Water Commissioner Robert F. Cross. "We all know that Albany has the best tasting and purest water anywhere, and now the rest of America knows too."

Last year, Albany won the best tasting water in New York State during a spirited competition at the New York State Fair in Syracuse. This was the second time since 2007 that Albany took top statewide honors.

During the Conference of Mayors competition, Albany water was selected as one of the five finalists out of 77 entries. Other finalists include Rochester, N.Y., Denton, TX, Racine, WI, and Pembroke Pines, FL. The five finalists will advance to the ultimate competition during the Conference of Mayors meeting June 17-20<sup>th</sup>. The water receiving "best tasting City water in America" award will be selected by a panel of 200 mayors from across the nation, and announced on June 20<sup>th</sup>.

Tom Cochrane, CEO and Executive Director of the Conference of Mayors said: "American cities are world leaders in providing high-quality water to protect public health, plentiful water supplies for the public safety and fire protection, and the water necessary to run the nation's economy. There is nowhere else on this globe where you can get safer tap water in this country."

Albany water originates from the Alcove Reservoir, constructed in the late 1920s, in the Town of Coeymans. It is first purified at the City's modern filtration plant in Feura Bush before flowing by gravity to Albany. In addition to the best tasting water in New York State, and one of the five best tasting in America, the cost of Albany water is lower than most other Capital District municipalities.

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