



Wed, Feb. 22, 2006

[HOME](#) | [Your Government](#) | [For Residents](#) | [For Business](#) | [For Visitors](#) | [E-Services](#) | [What's New](#)

City News and Press

[Site Search](#)

Go

[Site Utilities](#)

[Common Council](#)
[City Directory](#)
[Privacy Policy](#)
[City Links](#)
[Contact Us](#)

[Local News](#)

[Capital News 9](#)
[WRGB](#)
[WNYT](#)
[WTEN](#)
[WXXA](#)

[Fast Finder](#)

Select Page....

MAYOR ANNOUNCES NEW WATER LEAK SURVEILLANCE TOOL**Date**

3/17/2005

Source/Contact

Commissioner Robert Cross
 Department of Water and Water Supply
 518-434-5300

Albany NY – Mayor Gerald D. Jennings today announced that the Albany Water Department has added a new tool to its high-tech arsenal allowing it to automatically find hidden underground water leaks during the night, while residents sleep.

This device allows inspectors to more rapidly check the City's 376 miles of underground water mains for hidden leaks which, left undetected, can eventually result in major problems as the leak enlarges and the ground collapses. In 1999, the Water Department purchased a high-tech sound wave leak detector and, after surveying 25 percent of the City streets, found more than 52 hidden underground leaks, all of which have been repaired.

"This new device will add to the high-tech tools already used by our Water Department to find hidden leaks," Mayor Jennings said. "Using this new equipment, along with its other tools should allow us to find the hidden leaks faster, and make repairs before serious problems result." The Department hopes to complete surveying the entire City by year's end.

In the first two days of use, eight City streets have been surveyed overnight, and one leak has been detected. Inspectors will be checking at least four streets each night.

The device, which is attached to underground water valves, uses pipe vibrations every night, automatically detecting leak sounds while distinguishing them from water uses and other vibrations. The devices are retrieved the following morning, and their information is downloaded into a computer, which will show the precise location of the leak. The device can detect whether a leak is large or small and whether it originates from a main, valve, hydrant or service line.

"The sophistication and professionalism of our Water Department is light years ahead of most water utilities in the Capital District and beyond," Mayor Jennings said. "This will help us detect wasted water as well as find leaks before they result in collapsed streets and sidewalks, and a loss of water for Albany residents."

The new device, as well as the Department's other high-tech sound wave detector, is manufactured by the Flow Metrix Company in Maynard, Massachusetts.

###

City Links[Mayor's Page](#)[City News Page](#)
[Your Government](#) | [For Residents](#) | [For Business](#) | [For Visitors](#) | [E-Services](#)
[City Directory](#) | [Privacy Policy](#) | [City Links](#) | [What's New](#) | [Contact Us](#)

© Copyright 2002 City of Albany. All rights reserved.