



Paul Eckley, City of Salem Public Works Operations Manager, along with Sophia Hobet, Water Services Manager, and Tim Sherman, Water Treatment Supervisor, accept the "Best of the West" award during the 2006 Spring Conference of the Pacific Northwest Section of the American Water Works Association.

Salem's Drinking Water Voted Best in the Pacific Northwest

Salem's drinking water was recently voted "Best of the West" at the 2006 Spring Conference of the Pacific Northwest Section of the American Water Works Association. The competition highlights the high quality of municipal drinking water supplies. A panel of four independent judges selected Salem's drinking water from six entries from around the Pacific Northwest. The water samples were judged on taste, odor, appearance, and aftertaste.

Salem's primary source, North Santiam River, provides award winning drinking water to more than 178,000 customers. The distinguished honor of receiving the "Best of the West" award affirms the City of Salem's commitment to deliver the highest quality of drinking water to its water customers at an affordable cost. To ensure safe, high quality drinking water, the City maintains a rigorous sampling program throughout Salem as required by the Safe Drinking Water Act.

Founded in 1881, AWWA is the largest organization of water supply professionals in the world and is dedicated to the improvement of water quality and supply. The Pacific Northwest Section is comprised of water utilities and professionals from Oregon, Washington, and Idaho.

For more information on Salem's Drinking Water, please visit:
[Salem's main drinking water page](#)
[Salem's 2005 Water Quality Test Results](#)
[Salem's Annual Water Quality Report](#)