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## Fall Foliage

Schoharie Reservoir - New York City Water Supply System

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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#### MORE INFORMATION

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## DEP Commissioner Ward Declares End To City-Wide Drought Watch

Commissioner Christopher O. Ward announced today that abundant precipitation during the past three months in the upstate watershed has raised reservoir levels enough to allow for removal of the Drought Watch declared by Mayor Michael R. Bloomberg when he lifted the Drought Emergency, Stage 1 for November 1, 2002.

“Precipitation has been sufficiently above normal since September and October through the end of the year, said Commissioner Ward. As a result, the expectation is high that on June 1, which is the beginning of the City’s water year, levels will be at 100% — a year’s supply for the many uses of our water supply through the summer months as well as on a daily basis.”

Commissioner Ward, also noted that, “It is still important that New Yorkers continue to observe the water conservation habits that permitted us to get through the long drought of 2001-02, and the need to observe the City’s year-round water use restrictions, which remain in effect. They include prohibition on watering sidewalks and lawns between November 1st and March 31st and illegally opening fire hydrants.”