

# VILLAGE OF ALLOUEZ

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## Department of Public Works

### BLACKHAWK WATERMAIN BREAK

On the weekend of February 2<sup>nd</sup>, the Village experienced a number of watermain breaks. The break on Blackhawk Drive near Libal Street was one of the worst in sometime. Unfortunately, the watermain break occurred adjacent to a Village sanitary sewer manhole. Water and soil entered the sanitary manhole through the joints in the block manhole. The volume of water and soil flowing into the structure overwhelmed the downstream sewer causing backups in at least 5 homes. A considerable amount of soil and water was discharged into the basements of the abutting homes.

The watermain break was repaired midafternoon on Saturday the 2<sup>nd</sup> of February. At the completion of the repair, the Village cleaned and jetted the public sanitary sewer in the roadway to remove the soil that was deposited into our sewer and to restore gravity flow. Also, at the completion of the repair and cleanup, Village staff knocked on doors to ensure that the impacted homeowners could flush their toilets and that private sewer laterals were draining into the Village's sewer.

Due to the frost in the roadway, the water from the break did not surface but traveled parallel below the roadway surface, undermining the subgrade of the roadway. As a result, a number of sinkholes were developed and discovered. Due to the undermining, the roadway at the break will likely need to be reconstructed this year.