



**CITY OF DANBURY**  
DANBURY, CONNECTICUT 06810

HEALTH AND HOUSING DEPARTMENT  
155 DEER HILL AVENUE

(203) 797-4625  
FAX (203) 796-1596

October 25, 2004

TO : Danbury Common Council

FROM: Jack Kozuchowski, Coordinator of Environmental & Occupational Health Services

RE: Monthly Status Report - Environmental Health Division  
September, 2004

<b>Key Indicators</b>	<b>This Month</b>	<b>Last Month</b>	<b># Difference</b>	<b>% Difference</b>	<b>YTD</b>
<i>Hazardous Materials Management (hours)</i>	91	67	24	36	229
<i>Wetlands / Water Resources Management (hours)</i>	145	118	30	25	351
<i>Natural Resource Management Program Administration (hours)</i>	30	28	2	7	71
<i>Subsurface Disposal Evaluations (Septic Systems and Wells) (# of site visits)</i>	164	129	35	27	487



## Future Projects

Name	Rationale	Effect
None	Complete current projects before taking on new undertakings.	No new projects to be taken on – except for emergency assignments – due to program overload

### Narrative

The major project activities of the Environmental Health Division (EHD) for September, 2004 can be summarized as follows.

- **Hazardous Materials Management.** On September 29, after a considerable effort of planning and preparation, the EHD staff conducted a Tabletop Exercise for emergency department heads, to practice the City’s recently adopted “Public Health Emergency Plan” for Bioterrorism preparedness. The exercise involved two scenarios, involving a fictitious scenario of spread of Tularemia through Danbury and a release of nerve gas at the Danbury Mall. The exercise was a success in its practice of response procedures and in demonstrating thoughtful and decisive actions on the part of emergency response department heads. The EHD staff are preparing an “exercise report” that will document the City’s participation in this state mandated exercise. Also, EHD staff prepared a list of air monitoring instrumentation, environmental sampling equipment and personal protective equipment (PPE) for BT agents, which will be purchased using excess funding from the 2003-2004 BT grant from the State of Connecticut. Finally, the EHD continued to participate with Health Directors from the Housatonic region in preparing a regional Bioterrorism preparedness Plan.

The EHD continued oversight over the “Phytoremediation demonstration” on Barnum Court. The October 8<sup>th</sup> Science at Night forum at Western Connecticut State University will feature the Phytoremediation demonstration project.

- **Environmental Impact Commission.** The staff of the Environmental Health Division continues to do the best it can to staff the EIC, splitting screening reports, conducting reviews of complex applications and inspecting problem sites that are in construction. The EHD staff is doing the best they can to maintain a reasonable turn-around period for reports, permits and site inspections.
- **Natural Resource Management.** Work continued on planning for the Ives Trail. EHD supervised the preparation of the “Foundation Section” of the Ives Trail, which will be opened on October 17, 2004, in time for the 130<sup>th</sup> celebration of Charles Ives birth that is being sponsored by the Danbury Music Centre. An RFQ was issued for the layout, production and installation of signs and trail markers for the Foundation Section of the Trail and a sign-maker (Sign-A-Rama) was selected.



**CITY OF DANBURY**  
**DANBURY, CONNECTICUT 06810**

**HEALTH AND HOUSING DEPARTMENT**  
**155 DEER HILL AVENUE**

**(203) 797-4625**  
**FAX (203) 796-1596**

**HOUSING AND FOOD SERVICE REPORT**

September, 2004

**INSPECTIONS**

	NUMBER							
	This Month	Last Month	Number Diff.	% Diff.	YTD	Last YTD	Number Diff.	% Diff.
A.	245	300	(55)	(18)	881	919	(38)	(4)
B.	64	68	(4)	(6)	180	164	16	10
C.	96	127	(31)	(24)	288	275	13	5
D.	83	103	(20)	(19)	406	474	(68)	(14)
E.	121	126	(5)	(4)	363	236	127	54
F.	28	25	3	12	73	82	(9)	(11)
A.	Total Housing Inspections							
B.	Total Housing Inspections Common Areas							
C.	Total Housing Inspections Dwelling Units							
D.	Total Housing Inspections Nuisance							
E.	Total Food Service Inspections							
F.	Total General Nuisance/Miscellaneous Inspections							

Paul Schierloh  
 Associate Director



## NARRATIVE FOR MONTHLY REPORT

### HOUSING AND FOOD SERVICES SECTION

Field activities for housing and food service functions conducted during the reporting period are reflected in the statistical summary attached. In addition to the normal administrative, inspection and enforcement activities associated with these functions, the section undertook the initiatives outlined below which would be deemed to be of special interest or importance.

The food service section has completed the license renewal process for the new license period that began on July 1, 2004. License packets were mailed out to 540 food establishments in Danbury. Before licenses are reissued, establishments must document that they are in compliance with the State's Qualified Food Operator and designated alternate requirements. Establishments must also pay all outstanding reinspection fees as well as any personal property tax amounts that are delinquent for more than one year. Any food service that does not renew its license by August 1 is charged a late fee of one hundred dollars. License fees are not required of not-for-profit agencies.

Enforcement hearings were scheduled for a total of 13 establishments in September. During the licensing period, closure orders were issued to a total of 11 establishments, all of which complied either through obtaining licenses or ceasing food sales/service.

The housing section made court appearances for three cases in September. Several cases were also resolved prior to court appearances. Every effort is made to encourage cooperation in making needed improvements, but non-compliance leads to court action and possible penalties for contempt of court orders.

The department has continued annual nuisance sweeps in downtown neighborhoods in conjunction with Mayor Boughton's Blight Taskforce activities. The Department continues to investigate complaints throughout the city referred through the Mayor's Blight Hotline and other departments in addition to complaints made directly to the department. The department also participates in investigations by the Illegal Apartment Enforcement Team. The department has also received complaints and service requests through the City's Q-Alert program.

The department has also continued working with the LAMPP Project, the agency sub-contracted by the State to administer lead poisoning prevention and remediation funds awarded to Connecticut by the Federal government. The City has been working with LAMPP to identify tenants and property owners who would be eligible to receive risk assessments as well as funds to abate lead hazards. This enables Danbury property owners to access funds available to abate lead paint, replace windows, doors and perform other

repairs to make units lead safe. The department has continued outreach efforts in cooperation with the Mayor's Office. Department personnel submitted a report to LAMPP staff regarding a Danbury property that has received preliminary approval for assistance from LAMPP. Another Danbury property has received approval for funding from a LAMPP partner agency, the Community Renewal Team. The department made referrals to LAMPP for lead assessments/education for two Danbury families. The associate director also attended a LAMPP Oversight Committee meeting during the reporting period.

The housing section also provides staff support for the Danbury Housing Partnership, the Community Reinvestment Taskforce, the Non-Profit Development Corporation of Danbury (NPDCD, Inc.) and the Danbury Fair Rent Commission. During the reporting period, the part-time fair housing officer handled 2 housing discrimination inquiries, handled 4 fair rent inquiries, conducted 3 site investigations and attended 3 formal fair rent hearings.