



CITY OF DANBURY
DANBURY, CONNECTICUT 06810

HEALTH AND HOUSING DEPARTMENT
155 DEER HILL AVENUE

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

February 22, 2005

TO : Danbury Common Council

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

RE: Monthly Status Report - Environmental Health Division
January, 2005

Key Indicators	This Month	Last Month	# Difference	% Difference	YTD
<i>Hazardous Materials Management (hours)</i>	93	84	9	11	581
<i>Wetlands / Water Resources Management (hours)</i>	154	136	18	13	863
<i>Natural Resource Management</i>	23	33	(10)	(30)	182
<i>Program Administration (hours)</i>	101	108	(7)	(6.5)	691
<i>Subsurface Disposal Evaluations (Septic Systems and Wells) (# of site visits)</i>	185	173	12	7	1253

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 January, 2005 can be summarized as follows.

- **Hazardous Materials Management**. The EHD's work in BT preparedness in January focused on conducting in-service training modules for the Health Department staff. The Environmental Health Division had previously committed to conducting monthly sessions for appropriate Health Department staff to develop a better state of readiness for Bioterrorism events that may affect Danbury, and to practice our role as the City's local lead agency in setting the stage for State and Federal investigations of the spread of disease. In January, we conducted a demonstration on the Department's "Go-Bags" for emergency response and held an exercise for staff in researching information on bioterrorism agents of destruction using Internet resources. Later in the month, we conducted a second session to present a "docu-drama" video on a smallpox outbreak, which lead to a discussion of the Health Department's role in risk communications and public notifications during such events. The EHD also continued its role in directing the regional committee of local Health Directors in their charge of developing an inter-municipal "*Public Health Emergency Plan*" for the Housatonic Valley area.

The EHD also prepared a revised "Request for Proposals" (RFP) for environmental consultants to conduct a Phase II Environmental Assessment and to prepare a Remedial Action Plan on the Elmwood Place properties that will be the site of the Senior Center addition.

- **Water Resource Management**. The EHD assisted the Danbury Water Department in conducting interviews for consultants to conduct the Level A Aquifer mapping that is required by the State's Aquifer protection regulations. The firm of Leggette, Brashiers and Graham was recommended.

Also, 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. The National Parks Service assigned a representative to our project to develop a "Trail Management and Maintenance Plan" for the Ives Corridor; a meeting was held in January to scope out the project. We also held the first meeting of the inter-local negotiating committee to negotiate the inclusion of the three Bethel owned properties (Eureka Reservoir, Mountain Pond and Terre Haute) into the Ives Trail Corridor as permanent conservation areas for passive recreation.



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HOUSING AND FOOD SERVICE REPORT

January, 2005

INSPECTIONS

	NUMBER							
	This Month	Last Month	Number Diff.	% Diff.	YTD	Last YTD	Number Diff.	% Diff.
A.	324	324	0	0	1957	1891	66	3
B.	109	101	8	8	511	420	91	21
C.	174	146	28	19	766	710	56	8
D.	39	73	(34)	(47)	665	741	(76)	(10)
E.	62	69	(7)	(10)	680	628	52	8
F.	20	18	2	11	150	167	(17)	(10)

- 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.

Three members of the housing and food sections volunteered to begin participation in bioterrorism and hazmat response training as part of Dr. Draper's initiative to expand the capability of the department to respond to emergency incidents. A slight decrease in inspection numbers for the housing and food sections will be more than off-set by the increased flexibility offered to the department to respond to unexpected events.

Food service inspection totals for the month were lower due to the resignation of a full-time food service inspector. A request for personnel to fill the vacancy has been submitted. Conversion of the food service computer database to Access software was completed in December and staff has begun utilizing the new software.

The housing section attended one State appeals hearing in Hartford in January. Assistant Corporation Counsel Vicki Hutchinson processed several referrals for legal action in January. The housing section made one court appearance while several other cases were 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 discontinued nuisance sweeps in downtown neighborhoods for the winter season and will resume them in the spring. The Department continues to investigate complaints throughout the city referred through the Mayor's Blight Hotline and from 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 and the CityScan program.

The department has also continued working with the LAMPP Project, the entity 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. One Danbury property owner has received approval for assistance from LAMPP and construction contracts have been signed. A second application from Danbury received preliminary approval by LAMPP in December. Another Danbury property has received approval for funding from a LAMPP partner agency, the Community Renewal Team. The department has made a total of 4 referrals to LAMPP for lead assessments/education for Danbury families since LAMPP opened up the referral process. The associate director attended a LAMPP Oversight Committee meeting and a LAMPP Partners meeting during January. Danbury hosted a meeting of LAMPP and Yale Regional Lead Treatment Center staff with area pediatricians during January.

The housing section also provides staff support for the Danbury Housing Partnership and the Danbury Fair Rent Commission. The Fair Housing report for the period is not available due to the extended leave of the fair housing officer.