



CITY OF DANBURY
DANBURY, CONNECTICUT 06810

HEALTH AND HOUSING DEPARTMENT
155 DEER HILL AVENUE

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

March 27, 2006

Mayor Mark D. Boughton
Common Council
155 Deer Hill Avenue
Danbury, CT 06810

Re: Department of Health & Housing Monthly Report to the Common Council

Dear Mayor Boughton and Members of the Common Council:

The February 2006 Department of Health & Housing monthly report is provided for your review. Detailed reports are attached for both the Housing & Food Service and the Environmental Health Divisions which identify specific inspections and hours provided by our staff. Should you have any questions regarding these issues, feel free to contact myself or each Division Head directly.

Main Topics

The Food Service Inspection summary scores are continuously posted for public information on the City of Danbury web site. Current inspection results are available for public review, these results area added to the web site by City staff.

A "Healthy Neighborhood is a Lead Safe Neighborhood" continues the collaborative with the Danbury Visiting Nurse Association (VNA) to provide free blood lead screenings for children under 6 with the Wellness on Wheels (WOW) Van. The Grant program continues to provide blood lead screening opportunities to children in Danbury using the WOW Van services and lead poisoning prevention opportunities.

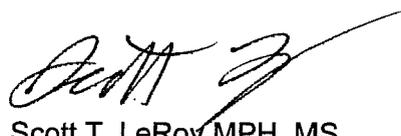
Additional Topics

In addition to the Department's year round workload, the seasonal issues have changed and added educational and regulatory tasks. The Danbury Department of Health is currently preparing to participate in a federally funded public health emergency drill in Southbury, CT, on April 19, 2006. This drill will help the Health Department test our existing plans for reacting to potential events as Pandemic / Bird Flu, SARS, or other events involving the release of similar agents. To date, community partnerships have been strengthened with the Danbury Hospital, Police and Fire Departments to provide highly skilled personnel for the event.

If you would like to volunteer for this event or require more information please contact our Department or refer to the attached letters from the Pomperaug Health Distract about the event.

You are encouraged to review all the information for each Division, as it provides details concerning ongoing activities. Also, I thank you for giving the Department of Health & Housing the opportunity to serve the Citizens of Danbury and feel free to contact the Division Supervisors or myself with any questions you may have.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Scott T. LeRoy", with a long, sweeping horizontal line extending to the right.

Scott T. LeRoy MPH, MS
Director of Health

Cc: Dena Diorio, Director of Finance & Personnel



Bethel

Redding

Ridgefield

WE NEED YOUR HELP!

As part of our area Emergency Preparedness Planning and Regional Emergency Response, a large Point of Dispensing (POD) Strategic National Stockpile (SNS) Drill will be held on April 19, 2006 at Pomperaug High School. Pomperaug Health District is the Lead Agency for this event. Our Region 6 MDA team is assisting with this emergency response. This drill will allow all of us working on volunteer community emergency response teams (Public Health Officers, Medical and Non-Medical Community Volunteers, Residents) to participate in a POD drill designed to assess our response plans in case of flu epidemics or other disease threats occurring in our region.

Volunteers are needed to act as patients or to work at the clinic as non-medical personnel. You must register to participate by completing the attached Volunteer Information Form and submitting it by email or Fax to Region 6 MDA and it will be processed and sent to the Lead Health Department.

POD DRILL: WEDNESDAY, APRIL 19, 2006 8:30 am

WHERE: POMPERAUG HIGH SCHOOL, SOUTHBURY, CT

TIME: 8:30 am to 2:00 pm

TRAINING: Two Volunteer Training events in Southbury (morning/evening) will be provided to registered volunteers. You can choose which training date to attend. Please do not show up for trainings if you have not registered through us to participate in this event. *If you are registered and cannot attend a volunteer training on the dates provided, you can still participate and receive "just in time training" the day of the event.*

The clinic positions to be filled are the following:

- | | |
|----------------------|--------------------------|
| ➤ Greeters | Internal Traffic Control |
| ➤ Forms Distribution | Runners |
| ➤ Patient Escorts | Dispensing Assistants |

Volunteers are also needed to act as patients. "Patient" volunteers would be needed approximately **10am to 1pm**.

Refreshments and a CATERED LUNCH will be provided to all volunteer staff at 2:00 pm! Please consider assisting with this very important Emergency Preparedness Drill. We hope you will join us in testing our public health emergency response POD plans.

If you are able to assist, please respond by completing the attached Volunteer Information Form and email or fax this form as soon as possible to Region 6 MDA (you can also email or fax any questions you may have about this request to us) at:

Email: bhdadmin@betheltownhall.org

Fax: 203-794-8514

Region 6 MDA will forward your information to Pomperaug Health District. Pomperaug Health District will notify you that you are registered to participate in this emergency SNS POD Drill.

Connecticut Regional Health Departments
DEMHS Region 5
Strategic National Stockpile (SNS)
Point of Distribution (POD) Regional Drill
Pomperaug High School
Southbury, CT
April 19, 2006 10:00am-2:00pm
Pomperaug Health District – Lead Agency
Neil Lustig, Director of Health - Incident Commander

Drill Volunteer Data Form

Please complete this form and return it to Referring Health Dept/District or Agency:

Referring Health Department: Region 6 Mass Dispensing Area Team (Bethel, Redding, Ridgefield)

We would appreciate it if you respond by email or fax by March 7, 2006 to Bethel Health Department:

Email: bhdadmin@betheltownhall.org Fax: 203-794-8514

Bethel Health Dept will forward your information to Pomperaug Health District – Lead Agency

Yes, I would like to volunteer as a non-medical staff member at the POD Drill on April 19.

Yes, I would like to volunteer as a "patient" at the POD Drill on April 19, 2006.

Name: _____

Address: _____

Town: _____ Zip: _____

Daytime Telephone: (____) _____

Email: _____

Fax: _____

Referring Health District or Agency: _____

Thank you for your willingness to support your community in this public health event. Any questions please call your Local Health Department or Agency, or call Susan Turner at the Pomperaug Health District, 203-264-9616.



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HOUSING AND FOOD SERVICE REPORT

February, 2006

INSPECTIONS

NUMBER

	This Month	Last Month	Number Diff.	% Diff.	YTD	Last YTD	Number Diff.	% Diff.
A.	293	273	20	7	2129	2233	(104)	(5)
B.	87	95	(8)	(8)	683	589	94	16
C.	128	126	2	2	954	908	46	5
D.	73	43	30	70	456	714	(258)	(36)
E.	124	58	66	114	534	707	(173)	(24)
F.	12	27	(15)	(56)	238	165	73	44

- 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.

Four members of the housing and food section continued to participate in bioterrorism and hazmat response training as part of the department's initiative to expand its capability to respond to emergency incidents. A slight decrease in inspection numbers for the housing and food sections will be more than offset by the increased flexibility offered to the department to respond to unexpected events.

Section personnel have completed training in pool inspections to join Environmental Health Section personnel in implementing a comprehensive pool inspection program. Four members of the section received training this past year which will provide the director additional flexibility in implementing the program in the upcoming season.

Food service inspection totals for the year are lower than prior years due to the food inspector position vacancy and the time required for the new public health inspector to obtain the required State certification. The inspector became provisionally certified on January 26 and commenced inspections on January 30. Food service inspection totals show a significant increase in February as the result. Housing inspection services have also been adversely impacted this year by an extended leave of the public health inspector assigned to housing inspections.

The Office of the Corporation Counsel processed thirteen housing/health code referrals in February. The housing section made court appearances on two cases 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 until 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 Unified Neighborhood Inspection Team (UNIT). The department also receives complaints and service requests through the City's Q-Alert program.

The department 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 assisting 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. Danbury has had two projects consisting of seven total units funded through LAMPP or LAMPP partners. There are currently two additional applications under review by LAMPP, with one application receiving initial approval in December. Work plans and specifications for this project are currently being developed by LAMPP. The department has also made a total of 10 referrals to LAMPP for lead assessments/education for eligible Danbury families. LAMPP has also scheduled a one-day Safe Work Practices training program for March 24, 2006 at the Danbury Library. This program is designed to teach remodeling contractors, painters and property owners safe methods for dealing with properties containing lead paint. Interested persons can register by calling LAMPP at 860-545-9564.

Lead Outreach Worker Jennifer Percec continued lead screenings for children under the Lead Safe Neighborhood grant secured by Director of Health Scott LeRoy. She has also continued outreach efforts, education and case management services. During February, she helped train Waterbury Health Department staff in use of the testing machine at the request of the State Department of Public Health. The State also conducted a successful on-site review in Danbury. Several events are planned for March, including clinics to be conducted in connection with the WestConn Day Care center and the nursing program at WestConn. Services will also be provided as part of the Children's Day to be held at Danbury Hospital on March 18, 2006. The efforts of the lead outreach worker have helped Danbury improve and expand lead poisoning prevention efforts.

The Department has also begun participation in the "Keep It Clean" campaign conducted by the Connecticut Lead Poisoning Prevention Program. Ms. Percec is working with Public Health Inspector Ruth Ruelke on implementing Danbury's efforts in combination with the Lead Safe Neighborhood grant outreach. This program involves recruiting area hardware and paint stores to distribute educational information on lead paint and prevention methods to customers. To date, a total of five Danbury stores have agreed to participate in the effort this year.

The housing section also provides staff support for the Danbury Housing Partnership and the Danbury Fair Rent Commission. The part-time fair housing officer received two fair rent inquiries. The fair housing officer attended a meeting of the Fair Housing Association of Connecticut. The officer and the associate director also assisted with monitoring of compliance in connection with the Poplar Park Condominium project.



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March 22, 2006

TO : Danbury Common Council

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

J.K.

RE: Monthly Status Report - Environmental Health Division
February, 2006

Key Indicators	This Month	Last Month	# Difference	% Difference	YTD
<i>Hazardous Materials Management (hours)</i>	92	55	37	67	1108
<i>Wetlands / Water Resources Management (hours)</i>	183	115	68	59	919
<i>Natural Resource Management (hours)</i>	25	24	1	4	217
<i>Program Administration (hours)</i>	59	60	(1)	(1.6)	434
<i>Subsurface Disposal Evaluations (Septic Systems and Wells) (# of site visits)</i>	101	75	26	35	1187

Current Projects

Name	Status	Next Steps	Finish date
Hazardous Materials Management	<p>1) Bioterrorism (BT) Preparedness</p> <p>Directed regional "Health Emergency Planning Committee" of area health directors aimed at developing a regional response process for BT events.</p> <p>Attended weeklong course on National Incident Command System (NIMS) for Bioterrorism events.</p> <p>2) Brownfield Assessments:</p> <p>Police Station: reviewed report from Apex Environmental on preliminary Phase II assessment studies.</p> <p>Reviewed reports and provided consultation on EPA corrective actions of Old Newtown Road industrial site to remediate contamination of residential household</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Participate in regional planning for BT preparedness and response; Initiate goals for 2005-2006 contract year preparedness planning. • Continue training EHD in Bioterrorism preparedness and response. • Provide consultation to City on this project, as needed. • Secure clearance letter from EPA for this property owner. 	<p>On-going</p> <p>On-going</p> <p>On-going</p> <p>March, 2006</p>
Water Resource Management	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Trained new Senior Environmental Inspector in project screenings, environmental assessment report preparation and enforcement • Completed environmental assessment of Kennedy Place environmental assessment report and presented it to the EIC. • Screened applications for Environmental Impact Commission, prepare reports present reports at EIC meetings • Reviewed Candlewood Lake draft "Shoreline Management Plan and issued commentary. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Continue staff liaison work with EIC 	<p>On-going</p>
Natural Resource Management	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Conducted meetings of Ives Trail Task Force to develop trail construction guidelines (2/7) and to start planning the "national Trails Day community walk" on the Ives Greenway (2/28) • Assisted Danbury School System in preparing "urban ecology" grant proposal to the National Science Foundation 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Construct trail. • Orchestrate "National Trails Day Community Walk". • Assist School System in implementing project, if funded. 	<p>April - June, 2006</p> <p>June 3, 2006</p>

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 status of major project activities of the Environmental Health Division (EHD) for February, 2006 can be summarized as follows.

- **Staff orientation.** In February, the new Senior Environmental Inspector started work with the Danbury Health Department. A significant amount of time was devoted to orientation and training of this new staff member.
- **Hazardous Materials Management.** The EHD continued its work to strengthen preparedness and response capabilities with the Health Department staff and our partners in the Housatonic region. The EHD also provided consultation on City Brownfield sites and industrial contamination issues.
- **Water Resource Management.** The EHD continued its management of multiple water resource projects, including Lake Kenosia, the Still River, Tarrywile Lake and Rogers Park Pond. The Kennedy Avenue environmental assessment report was completed by the EHD staff and presented at the February meeting of the Commission as our staff report.
- **Natural Resource Management.** Work continued on planning for the Ives Trail. At the February meetings of the Task Force, the EHD directed the development of trail construction guidelines for the work crews that will clear and mark the Greenway in April and May in preparation for the community walk of the Greenway on June 3. The EHD also continued its work in providing professional support to the Conservation Commission.

The EHD also assisted the Director of the Danbury School System's after school and summer programs in preparing a grant proposal to the National Science Foundation that would create an "urban ecology" educational initiative. If funded, this initiative would create environmental education programs at the open space preserves of Danbury, including the Still River Greenway, Old Quarry Nature Center, Rogers Park Pond and the Ives Trail Greenway. The environmental education program will establish environmental observations at these outdoor learning centers and create an on-going database of student environmental observations at each of these sites.