



CITY OF DANBURY
DANBURY, CONNECTICUT 06810

HEALTH AND HOUSING DEPARTMENT
155 DEER HILL AVENUE

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

May 26, 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 April 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. Also, on April 28, 2006, the Department provided services to the children of Morris Street School. Lead Poisoning prevention information was presented to approximately 40 parents regarding the prevention of lead poisoning and offered free lead testing of their children.

Additional Topics

In addition to the Department's year round workload, the seasonal issues have changed and added educational and regulatory tasks.

On April 13, 2006, Dr. Thomas Draper, the Director of Community Medicine, and I presented a Lyme Disease prevention seminar at Boehringer Ingelheim for the field employees working on the landscaping and at risk for the Lyme Disease.

The Danbury Department of Health; in partnership with the Danbury Hospital, Police, and Fire Departments; participated in the federally funded public health emergency drill in Southbury, CT, on April 19, 2006. This event was preceded with emergency drills and notional play from April 15 through April 20th, 2006. This drill helped the City of Danbury Emergency Responders & the Health Department test existing plans for reacting to potential events as Pandemic Flu, Bird Flu, SARS, or other events involving the release of unknown agents.

Transitional meetings are being conducted with Mr. Dan Baroody, Senior Inspector, Mr. Jack Kozuchowski, and myself to ensure a proper transition of duties and assignments before the end of June, 2006.

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,



Scott T. LeRoy MPH, MS
Director of Health

Cc: Dena Diorio, Director of Finance & Personnel



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HOUSING AND FOOD SERVICE REPORT

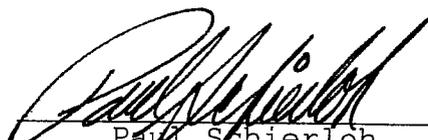
April, 2006

INSPECTIONS

NUMBER

	This Month	Last Month	Number Diff.	% Diff.	YTD	Last YTD	Number Diff.	% Diff.
A.	242	298	(56)	(19)	2669	2944	(275)	(9)
B.	76	91	(15)	(16)	850	755	95	13
C.	90	138	(48)	(35)	1182	1169	13	1
D.	66	67	(1)	(1)	589	989	(400)	(40)
E.	132	149	(17)	(11)	815	832	(17)	(2)
F.	26	44	(18)	(41)	308	208	100	48

- 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 remain 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, March and April 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 fourteen housing/health code referrals in February. The housing section made court appearances on five 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 postponed initiation of nuisance sweeps in downtown neighborhoods pending coordination with the proposed expansion of the UNIT program. 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. 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 four additional applications under review by LAMPP, including two new applications submitted this month. The department has also made a total of 10 referrals to LAMPP for lead assessments/education for eligible Danbury families.

Lead Outreach Worker Jennifer Percec continued lead screenings for children under the Lead Safe Neighborhood grant secured by Director of Health Scott LeRoy. She also continued outreach efforts, education and case management services. During April she held her most successful screening event to date at Morris Street school, screening 23 children in one evening. Jennifer was assisted at the clinic by nursing students from WestConn. Teaming with the WestConn nursing program has proven to be a mutually beneficial partnership. Jennifer also made a presentation on Danbury's lead screening program at the State's Semi-Annual Lead Poisoning Prevention Meeting in early April. Additional events are planned for May, including offering screenings at Sharefest to be held on May 7 in Danbury. The efforts of the lead outreach worker continue to help the department improve and expand lead poisoning prevention efforts.

The Department has also participated 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. A total of five Danbury stores agreed to participate in the effort this year. The educational materials provided by the State were received and distributed to participating stores in April.

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 during April. She also attended the annual Connecticut Fair Housing Conference on April 6. The officer and the associate director also assisted with monitoring of compliance in connection with the Poplar Park Condominium project. The director and associate director also appeared before the Governmental Entities Review and Evaluation Committee to urge the continuance of the Housing Partnership so that it can oversee implementation of the Homeless Taskforce Ten-Year Plan to End Homelessness.



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May 22, 2006

TO : Danbury Common Council

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

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

Key Indicators	This Month	Last Month	# Difference	% Difference	YTD
<i>Hazardous Materials Management (hours)</i>	79	108	(29)	(27)	1297
<i>Wetlands / Water Resources Management (hours)</i>	188	238	(50)	(21)	1345
<i>Natural Resource Management (hours)</i>	47	52	(5)	(10)	316
<i>Program Administration (hours)</i>	62	48	14	29	544
<i>Subsurface Disposal Evaluations (Septic Systems and Wells) (# of site visits)</i>	147	179	(32)	(18)	1513

Program Status Report

Narrative

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

- **Hazardous Materials Management.** The EHD participated continued in planning and preparedness activities for Bioterrorism. At the local level, the Environmental Health Division participated in a statewide exercise of a plague scenario to practice the operation of a mass-dispensing clinic for prophylactic medications. The Health Department simulated the opening of the City Emergency Operations Center with Police and Fire Department and issued a local risk communications message to special target populations during the statewide exercise.

The EHD also completed work on the 2005/2006 update to the City Community Emergency Response Plan and reviewed the Plan with Public Utilities and Police.

Finally the EHD initiated the preparation of the final project report for the Phytoremediation demonstration project.

- **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 EHD also worked with Eastern Mountain Sports and other environmental organizations in planning for the Still River clean-up day on May 20.

- **Natural Resource Management.** The Ives Trail project has entered the construction stage. Under the direction of the EHD, volunteer construction crews strived toward executing the work specified on the Ives Trail design, and planned the National Trails Day event preview hike of the Ives Trail on June 3, 2006. The EHD also worked with the Ives Trail Task Force in the planning of a transition for the work of this organization after July 1.

- **Program Planning and Administration.** The Coordinator of Environmental and Occupational Health Services (CEOHS) and the Director of Health continued their series of weekly meetings to determine the transition of all programs and projects after July 1 departure of the CEOHS.