



CITY OF DANBURY
DANBURY, CONNECTICUT 06810

HEALTH AND HOUSING DEPARTMENT
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December 22, 2004

TO : Danbury Common Council

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

J.K.

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

| Key Indicators | This Month | Last Month | # Difference | % Difference | YTD |
|--|-------------------|-------------------|---------------------|---------------------|------------|
| <i>Hazardous Materials Management (hours)</i> | 71 | 104 | (33) | (32) | 404 |
| <i>Wetlands / Water Resources Management (hours)</i> | 116 | 106 | 10 | 9 | 573 |
| <i>Natural Resource Management</i> | 25 | 30 | (5) | (17) | 126 |
| <i>Program Administration (hours)</i> | 105 | 99 | 6 | 6 | 482 |
| <i>Subsurface Disposal Evaluations (Septic Systems and Wells) (# of site visits)</i> | 144 | 276 | (132) | (48) | 907 |

Current Projects

| Name | Status | Next Steps | Finish date |
|--|--|--|--|
| <p>Hazardous Materials Management</p> | <p>1) Environmental Assessment of properties at site of proposed Public Security complex.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Review qualifications of firms and prepare short list of firms to interview ➤ Interview finalist firms ➤ Select Consultant for project <p>2) Barnum Court Phytoremediation</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Prepared conceptual plan and budget for extending project to 2005 growing season. ➤ Conducted phone conference with EPA to discuss funding extension to 2005 <p>3) Bioterrorism Preparedness</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Directed work of regional committee of Health Directors in preparing Public Health Emergency Plan for Housatonic Area. ➤ Conducted in-service session for staff to review planning efforts for conducting a smallpox clinic. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hold kick-off meeting with consultant to discuss site design, legal and financial issues related to scope of environmental assessments. • Compile all results and prepare manuscript for publications • Seek funding to extend project • Develop risk communication component of Public Health Emergency Plan • Develop Local Health Alert Network (LHAN) • Participate in regional planning for BT preparedness and response | <p>June, 2005</p> <p>November 2005</p> <p>On-going</p> |
| <p>Water Resource Management</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Prepared conceptual plan for non-herbicide weed treatment cells in lake Kenosia as a demonstration project for swimming zone weed treatment in future years | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Continue to provide staff liaison services to Commission | <p>On-going</p> |
| <p>Natural Resource Management</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Conducted meeting of Ives Trail Task Force • Evaluated proposal from Conway School of Environmental Design, for environmental assessment of trail construction; prepared specifications for assessment services | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Initiate negotiations with town of Bethel for incorporating Eureka reservoir / Mountain Pond / Terre Haute properties into Ives Trail Greenway • Work toward development of Trail blueprint and design | <p>May, 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 major project activities of the Environmental Health Division (EHD) for November, 2004 can be summarized as follows.

- ◆ **Hazardous Materials Management**. The EHD's work in BT preparedness planning in November focused on the chairperson role of the CEOHS on the regional council of Health Directors. The committee discussed the focus areas of the State Health Department's template and identified "Disease surveillance and monitoring" as the top priority area for this grant cycle, followed by risk communication, command and control exercises, and surge capacity. The CEOHS initiated the work of the regional BT consultant by discussing the priorities and strategies for future meetings.

The EHD also continued oversight over the "Phytoremediation demonstration" on Barnum Court. A plan was developed to extend the project into the 2005 growing season and EPA was approached with the concept in a phone conference. EPA encouraged the City to submit a draft of this plan and a projected budget to accomplish the 2005 research. If EPA indicates its willingness to fund the project into 2005, a formal request for the project extension will be submitted to the Common Council.

The EHD also participated in the selection of a consultant to conduct Phase I and Phase II assessments of the properties on East Franklin Street at the proposed site of the future Public Security complex. After a single day of interviewing, Apex Environmental was selected to conduct this work.

- **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. The Ives Trail Task Force reviewed the proposal from the Conway School of Environmental Design to conduct an environmental assessment and final trail design in 2005. A set of specifications were developed and the Task Force will vote on whether to retain the services of the Conway School at its December meeting.



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HOUSING AND FOOD SERVICE REPORT

November, 2004

INSPECTIONS

NUMBER

| | This Month | Last Month | Number Diff. | % Diff. | YTD | Last YTD | Number Diff. | % Diff. |
|----|---------------|---------------|-----------------|------------|------|-------------|-----------------|------------|
| A. | 227 | 201 | 26 | 11 | 1309 | 1449 | (140) | (10) |
| B. | 60 | 61 | (1) | (2) | 301 | 316 | (15) | (5) |
| C. | 88 | 70 | 18 | 26 | 446 | 500 | (54) | (11) |
| D. | 78 | 69 | 9 | 13 | 553 | 621 | (68) | (11) |
| E. | 66 | 120 | (54) | (45) | 549 | 390 | 159 | 41 |
| F. | 17 | 22 | (5) | (23) | 112 | 102 | 10 | 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.

The food service section had all staff complete mandatory re-certification courses put on by the Connecticut Department of Public Health. 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.

The housing section attended one State appeals hearing in Hartford in November. Assistant Corporation Counsel Vicki Hutchinson made appearances in court to finalize two enforcement cases in November. 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 nuisance sweeps in downtown neighborhoods in conjunction with Mayor Boughton's Blight Taskforce activities. The Department also 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 preliminary approval for assistance from LAMPP. A second application from Danbury has been received by LAMPP but not yet acted upon. Another Danbury property has received approval for funding from a LAMPP partner agency, the Community Renewal Team. The department made referral to LAMPP for lead assessments/education for one Danbury family during November, bringing the total number of referrals to 4.

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 4 fair rent inquiries, processed 2 fair rent complaints, conducted 2 site investigations and attended 1 formal fair rent hearing. The fair housing officer also attended the annual meeting of the Fair Housing Association of Connecticut.