



CITY OF DANBURY
OFFICE OF NEIGHBORHOOD ASSISTANCE

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Livable Neighborhoods 2013
“Building a Better Danbury”

October 2013

October 28, 2013

Honorable Mayor Boughton and City Council Members:

Below is a table highlighting UNIT activity from the time of last month’s City Council report. This does not include any UNIT activity regarding follow up and re-inspection work from previously noted issues. The UNIT works to ensure that each and every issue is resolved as quickly as possible.

Time Period	September 23 – October 28, 2013
Number of Quality of Life Issues	98
Year to Date	828

The top issues addressed by the UNIT were:

- Garbage/Debris on property (34)
- Blight/Miscellaneous (18)
- Illegal Apartments/Overcrowding, Unpermitted Construction (13)
- Parking violations (11)
- Front yard Parking (9)
- Abandoned or unregistered vehicles (6)
- Exterior Blight Order (3)
- Abandoned/foreclosed houses (3)

UNIT HIGHLIGHTS:

This past month the UNIT has been busy with properties that have garbage/rubbish on it. Our department inspected over 30 homes and have been working with the property owners to get them all cleaned up. Additionally, our department has re-initiated enforcement towards vehicles parked on sidewalks. Pedestrian safety is compromised

when vehicles park on the sidewalk. Additionally, repeated actions help accelerate the destruction of the sidewalks and the curbs. Vacant and foreclosed home complaints have slowly declined. This is a sign that our office has been able to stay on top of the existing empty homes in our town and continue to work with the lending institutions to ensure that these properties are maintained.

Exterior Blight Citation Warnings Issued:

Since the last Council Report, the UNIT issued three (3) Exterior Blight Warnings to property owners. In this case, thirty days are allowed for the property owner to remediate the issues highlighted on the citation warning. If compliance isn't achieved during this time frame, then our department goes to the next step of issuing daily fines of \$100/day until the issues have been resolved.

Orders written by UNIT (YTD): 26

Below is a review of the warnings sent this past month:

- **10 East Hayestown Road:** Vacant, foreclosed property that has not been maintained and the grass is high. Needs to be mowed and continually maintained.
- **53 Morris Street:** Vacant, foreclosed property that has not been maintained. Grass and bushes overgrown. Broken fence falling into property and the sections of the house need repair. Order requires all of these items to be addressed.
- **89 Stadley Rough Road:** Vacant property owned by an out of town heir. The structure of the house is beginning to become compromised by the elements. Holes in the gutter line and lower roof now being overrun by animals. Trees, saplings and vines have overrun the property and will need to be removed. Rubbish around the property needs to be cleaned up. The property also needs continual maintenance.

At this point, 50% properties that our department has sent orders to, all of the issues have been resolved and remediated. This is remarkable progress! Our department continues to work on the remaining open orders and is prepared to continue issuing them, as this has become a valuable enforcement tool for our department.

311 Call Center Report: October 2013

The month of October saw the 311 Call Center receive approximately 576 calls, with phone numbers being the most-requested item once again at 184 inquiries. Residents seeking information on the fall leaf pickup program, which began October 21 for zip code 06810 and will conclude the week of November 25 for zip code 06811, placed 43 calls while brought 34 calls were placed by residents seeking information on where they can dispose of household garbage calls. Seventeen calls were placed for information on the recycling truck and its subsequent locations and 14 calls were placed regarding Household Hazardous Waste Day, which will not happen again until 2014. The tempests

of years past during the fall will seemingly, as of yet, not occur this year as work is still being done to fix damages and allow work that had been delayed to be finished. As the leaves continue to fall, residents are reminded to keep the catch basins in front of their houses clear of all debris to ensure water drains appropriately and prevent flooding, which will also contribute to road erosion and prevent more problems. In addition, if residents witness individuals blowing leaves and yard debris into the road, which is strictly prohibited, they are encouraged to call 311 and report said issues.

The UNIT continues to encourage the participation of Danbury's residents to report any concerns in their neighborhood by utilizing the City Line 311 system. Residents of Danbury can simply dial 311 from their home phones, or 203-744-4311 from out of town or cell phones. Additionally, residents can log on to the City's webpage, www.ci.danbury.ct.us, and click on the City Line 311 link and register their complaint at their convenience, and now, residents can utilize the Danbury Direct app from their iPhone to submit a concern or question. Residents can choose to provide their contact information, so the UNIT can follow up and provide an update on the situation. By visiting the Neighborhood Assistance Department on the City's website, residents will also be able to view the UNIT's monthly activity.

If we can be of any assistance to you or residents in your ward please contact us at 796-8026 or 311.

Sincerely,

Shawn Stillman
Coordinator, Office of Neighborhood Assistance