



CITY OF DANBURY

HEALTH, HOUSING, & WELFARE DEPARTMENT
155 DEER HILL AVENUE, DANBURY, CONNECTICUT 06810

Central Health & Housing Office
203 - 797-4625
Fax 796-1596

Central Welfare Office
203 - 797-4569
Fax 797-4566

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

July 29, 2008

Re: Department of Health, Housing & Welfare's Monthly Report

Dear Mayor Boughton and Members of the Common Council:

The June 2008 Department of Health & Housing monthly report is provided for your review. Detailed reports are attached for each Division, including the Housing & Food Service, Welfare and Environmental Health which identify specific inspections, tasks and hours provided by our staff. The Department also receives and responds to resident communications through the new *City Line* 311 customer service line and the electronic Q-Alert system. 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.

Significant progress has been made to open the City's third school-based health center at the Rogers Park Middle School. A public Open House and Ribbon cutting is now anticipated to be scheduled in August. Also, the additional State of Connecticut grant funding has allowed the SBHC at the High School to assist the nurses and the WOW Van with physicals before the start of the School year. If you have any questions feel free to contact

Medical Outreach 797-4567
Eviction Prevention 797-4565
Information-Referral 797-4569

Dial 2-1-1 for all
Connecticut Services!

Emergency Shelter 796-1661
Em. Shelter Fax 796-1660
Administration 796-1504



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Ms. Melanie Bonjour, Health Promotion/School-Based Health Center Coordinator, at the Health, Housing & Welfare Department at 797-4625.

Additional Topics

The Department meet with members of the CTDPH grant funded Lyme Disease Prevention program, based in Ridgefield, to review the "BLAST" message created to prevent the spread of Lyme Disease. The term "BLAST" represents for the five most important things you and your family can do to stay safe from all tick-borne diseases (see attached). The grant program created this message to help all residents focus on the most important steps everyone can follow to prevent Lyme Disease.

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 & Welfare 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, Housing & Welfare

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BLAST Lyme Prevention Program

It's time to BLAST Lyme Disease.

Tick season is here and the Ridgefield Health Department is kicking off its new prevention program... "BLAST Lyme Disease." BLAST stands for the five most important things you and your family can do to stay safe from tick-borne diseases.

B stands for **Bathing**. A recent study showed that taking a shower or bath with two hours of spending time in the yard may reduce the risk of Lyme Disease.

L reminds everyone to **Look** their bodies over for ticks daily. Remove ticks carefully by their mouth parts with tweezers and save them in a plastic bag for identification. Contact your local health department for tick-testing policies and notify your physician if you have any early symptoms including, expanding rashes, fatigue, headache, fever and achy muscles and joints.

A encourages you to **Apply** insect repellants. Studies have shown that applying 30-40% DEET-based repellent to skin is effective at repelling blacklegged (deer) ticks. Application of 0.5% permethrin-based insecticide to clothing is highly effective at repelling ticks.

S stands for **Spraying**. Studies have shown that appropriately applied pesticide sprayed around the perimeter of a yard may reduce deer tick populations by 85 – 90%. For an online Tick Management Handbook, visit the Connecticut Agricultural Experiment Station at www.ct.gov/caes.

T reminds everyone to **Treat your pets**. Pets should be looked over daily for ticks that may be buried in their fur. Local veterinarians offer a variety of methods for tick control and Lyme Disease prevention for your pets.

For additional information on the BLAST Lyme disease prevention program, contact the Ridgefield Health Department at 203- 431-2745 or email blastlyme@ridgefieldct.org. Visit the **new** Lyme disease website at www.ridgefieldct.org.

Make everyone in the family a Lyme Fighter this year. BLAST Lyme Disease!



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HOUSING AND FOOD SERVICE REPORT

June, 2008

INSPECTIONS

NUMBER

	This Month	Last Month	Number Diff.	% Diff.	Last YTD	Number YTD	% Diff.	Diff.
A.	315	353	(38)	(11)	3604	3903	(299)	(8)
B.	47	48	(1)	(2)	611	1100	(489)	(44)
C.	76	92	(16)	(17)	923	1357	(434)	(32)
D.	190	211	(21)	(10)	2019	1401	618	44
E.	132	165	(33)	(20)	1626	1485	141	9
F.	62	28	34	121	372	348	24	7

- 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

(1)

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NARRATIVE FOR MONTHLY REPORT HOUSING AND FOOD PROTECTION PROGRAM

The statistical report reflects field activities conducted in connection with housing, public health and food service functions undertaken by the department. This narrative report is intended to summarize administrative activities and enforcement actions initiated by these sections. The narrative also highlights tasks and initiatives that may be of special interest.

The Office of the Corporation Counsel processed fourteen housing/health code referrals in June. The department made court appearances on three cases. While every effort is made to encourage cooperation to correct violations, non-compliance with department orders leads to court action and possible penalties for contempt of court.

The department continues to participate in systematic and complaint inspections with the UNIT program as needed. Senior Housing Inspector Don Melillo serves as the department's liaison to UNIT and participates in inspections as requested. The department also investigates complaints throughout the city referred through the Mayor's complaint line and from other departments in addition to complaints filed directly with the department. The department also receives complaints and service requests through the 311 system.

The department's lead poisoning prevention efforts for the month included monitoring of laboratory reports regarding blood lead levels in children in cooperation with the Connecticut Department of Public Health. Staff made contacts with clients in need of follow up tests according to State testing protocols. The department also performed functions as a community partner in the LAMPP Program. Participation makes Danbury property owners eligible to apply for grant funds to abate lead paint, replace windows and perform other repairs necessary to make units lead safe. Three applications involving Danbury properties are currently being processed by LAMPP. Abatement work on one of the Danbury properties began in June and is nearing completion.

The housing section also provides staff support for the Danbury Fair Rent Commission. The part-time fair housing officer received four fair rent inquiries during June. The officer also received two housing discrimination inquiries.

The department is in the midst of the re-licensure process for the almost 600 permanent and itinerant food service establishments in Danbury. As of June 30, 2008, a total of 322 licenses had been processed with 313 approved for issuance. Approval of five applications received were being held for payment of past-due reinspection fees, three for outstanding violations/inspection issues and one for absence of a required Qualified Food Operator. Licenses are also reviewed and issuance withheld for failure to pay delinquent personal property taxes on equipment, failure to comply with State requirements regarding a designated alternate person in charge and failure to comply with State water quality standards if served by an on-site well. Establishments that fail to renew their licenses by August 1, 2008 are assessed a late fee of \$100.00.

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July 24, 2008

TO : Danbury Common Council

FROM: Daniel Baroody, Senior Inspector, Environmental Health Division

RE: Monthly Status Report - Environmental Health Division
June, 2008

Key Indicators	This Month	Last Month	# Difference	% Difference	YTD
<i>Hazardous Materials Management & Public Health Preparedness (hours)</i>	189	184	5	3	909
<i>Wetlands / Water Resources Management (hours)</i>	77	123	(46)	(37)	752
<i>Program Administration (hours)</i>	51	52	(1)	(2)	241
<i>Subsurface Disposal Evaluations (Septic Systems and Wells) (# of site visits)</i>	105	101	4	4	531

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June 2008

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Program Status Report

The status of major project and program activities of the Environmental Health Division (EHD) for June, 2008 can be summarized as follows.

Wetlands / Water Resource Management: The EHD continued to provide technical support staff to the Environmental Impact Commission (EIC). EHD staff has conducted review of permit documentation and site plans, site inspection of on going construction of EIC Permitted Projects, attended EIC Meeting and discussed environmental issues related to future projects by organizing pre-application meetings with developers and their consultants.

The EHD continued its management of water resource projects, including Tarrywile Lake.

The EHD continued to provide staff support and liaison to the Environmental Impact Commission. (EIC), conducting oversight, environmental monitoring and inspection of public and private construction projects:

The EHD conducted site investigations of complaints and construction activities along the shore front of Candlewood Lake in cooperation with The Candlewood Lake Authority (CLA),

The EHD receives and processes complaints, service requests and inquiries through the 311 “City Line” and Q-Alert systems.

Program Planning and Administration: The Director of Health (DOH) and Senior Inspector continued to coordinate various environmental programs

Subsurface Sewage Disposal & Private Water Supply Wells Compliance Program: The on-site sewage disposal and well permitting program staff continued to perform plan review, site soil suitability testing and inspection.

Land Use: The EHD continued administration of the Grading Permit Program, conducting permit application review, site inspection and enforcement.

Hazardous Materials Management & Public Health Preparedness: The Environmental Health Division (EHD) continues in planning, training and preparedness activities for all hazard events required by the Connecticut Department of Public Health (DPH) Bioterrorism and Pandemic Influenza Grants.

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To: City of Danbury Common Council
From: Caitlin Reese, M.S.W., Director of Welfare

Re: June 2008 Monthly Report

The following are the highlights of the division's activities:

- Our division collected 179 lbs. of boxed meals or Ensure and distributed the food to local pantries.
- Our housing caseworker managed 69 active cases with 23 new requests for service in June.
- The Day Center's caseworker managed 113 active cases at our Emergency Shelter for the month of June with 21 new cases added. 233 total units of service were provided at our Day Center. The Day Center had a total of 336 visits from homeless individuals.
- 35 individuals were assessed for social service needs at the AmeriCares Free Clinic, 138 Indignant Drug Program applications were completed and processed as well as 23 individuals on the Wellness on Wheels van received services from our medical caseworker.
- Our Emergency Shelter provided 13 new homeless individuals with services and had 380 stays from homeless individuals.
- 14 homeless individuals were assisted in finding employment and 7 were assisted in completing job searches.
- 2 homeless individuals were placed in transitional housing and another 2 were placed in permanent housing.

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Service Activity Category	This Month	Last Month	% Difference
Medical Case Management	196	230	-14.78%
Housing Case Management	69	69	
<i>Total new cases</i>	23	20	15%
Emergency Prescriptions	11	4	175%
Food Assistance	179	136	31.62%
Back rent assistance	8 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 3 granted • 4 denied • 1 pending • 0 referred 	3 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 1 granted • 0 denied • 2 pending • 0 referred 	166.67%
Housing search assistance	5	7	-28.57%
Housing retention services	3	5	-40%
Assistance with admission appointments and/or lease signings	0	0	0%
Other housing assistance	9	9	0%
Home Visits	0	2	-100%
Indigent Prescription applications	138	162	-14.81%
Medical assessments for WOW and Americares	58	68	-14.71%
Education/Employment	2	2	0%

Emergency Shelter

Day Center			
	This Month	Last Month	% Difference
Cases homeless people were active during the month	113	109	3.67%
Initial assessments were completed	14	18	-22.22%
Persons found housing or were placed in housing programs	4	7	-42.86%
Mental Health Referrals	22	18	22.22%
Persons found employment	14	14	0%
Substance Abuse Referrals	26	23	13.04%
Total # of different services provided during this month	233	219	6.39%
Total # of clients served at the day center	336	346	-2.89%
Total # of unduplicated persons receiving services	21	20	5%

Night Shelter			
	This Month	Last Month	% difference
Total # of unduplicated persons receiving services	13	10	30%
People were turned away for reasons other than lack of bed space	14	16	-12.5%
Persons turned away for lack of beds	0	0	0%
Total # of clients served at the night shelter	380	445	-14.61%

Shelter utilization (day+night)	This Month
Utilization (total # people for the month)	716