



CITY OF DANBURY
DANBURY, CONNECTICUT 06810

HEALTH AND HOUSING DEPARTMENT
155 DEER HILL AVENUE

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

March 28, 2005

TO : Danbury Common Council

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

J.K.

RE: Monthly Status Report - Environmental Health Division
February, 2005

Key Indicators	This Month	Last Month	# Difference	% Difference	YTD
<i>Hazardous Materials Management (hours)</i>	68	93	(25)	(27)	649
<i>Wetlands / Water Resources Management (hours)</i>	140	154	(14)	(9)	1003
<i>Natural Resource Management Program</i>	43	23	20	87	225
<i>Administration (hours)</i>	82	101	(19)	(19)	773
<i>Subsurface Disposal Evaluations (Septic Systems and Wells) (# of site visits)</i>	123	185	(62)	(34)	1376

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 February, 2005 can be summarized as follows.

- **Hazardous Materials Management.** The EHD continued its high priority focus on Bioterrorism preparedness in February, focused on conducting in-service training modules for the Health Department staff. The Environmental Health Division had previously committed to conducting monthly sessions for appropriate Health Department staff to develop a better state of readiness for Bioterrorism events that may affect Danbury, and to practice our role as the City's local lead agency in setting the stage for State and Federal investigations of the spread of disease. In February, hazard analysis procedures, which define the Health Department's role in the City's emergency response system, were reviewed with staff. The EHD also continued its role in directing the regional committee of local Health Directors in their efforts to develop an inter-municipal "*Public Health Emergency Plan*" for the Housatonic Valley area, focusing In February the Danbury Hospital reviewed, with the committee, its surveillance system for detecting outbreaks of diseases that could be attributed to a release of a Bioterrorism (BT) agent in the region.

The EHD also reviewed the proposals submitted by environmental consulting firms to conduct the Phase III environmental investigations and prepare subsurface clean-up plans for the properties on Elmwood Place where the Senior Center expansion is proposed.

- **Water Resource Management.** The EHD reviewed the Flood Management Certification application package for the construction of a Water Quality Basin at the head of the Still River Greenway at the Branson Ultrasonic site on the Still River in Commerce Park. Following DEP's certification of the project, the design (contributed by Ben Doto, P.E.) will go into construction, later this year. The structure will channel drainage from Eagle Road into the Water Quality Basin, which will purify pollutants out of the runoff prior to discharging to the Still River.
- **Natural Resource Management.** Work continued on planning for the Ives Trail. The February meeting featured a brainstorming session to create a "Trail Management and Maintenance Plan" for the Ives Corridor. Also, the EHD prepared a grant proposal to DEP, which would subsidize the costs of trail clearing, habitat mitigation measures and the construction of environmental education stations on the Ives Trail.



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HOUSING AND FOOD SERVICE REPORT

February, 2005

INSPECTIONS

	NUMBER							
	This Month	Last Month	Number Diff.	% Diff.	YTD	Last YTD	Number Diff.	% Diff.
A.	276	324	(48)	(15)	2233	2078	155	7
B.	78	109	(31)	(28)	589	477	112	23
C.	142	174	(32)	(18)	908	792	116	15
D.	49	39	10	26	714	787	(73)	(9)
E.	27	62	(35)	(56)	707	742	(35)	(5)
F.	15	20	(5)	(25)	165	183	(18)	(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.

Three members of the housing and food sections volunteered to begin participation in bioterrorism and hazmat response training as part of Dr. Draper's initiative to expand the capability of the department to respond to emergency incidents. A slight decrease in inspection numbers for the housing and food sections will be more than off-set by the increased flexibility offered to the department to respond to unexpected events.

Food service inspection totals for the month were low due to the resignation of a full-time food service inspector and the absence of the second food service inspector for the entire month due to extended leave. A request for personnel to fill the vacancy has been submitted. Conversion of the food service computer database to Access software was completed in December and staff continued the update of data and utilization of the new software.

Assistant Corporation Counsel Vicki Hutchinson processed several referrals for legal action in February. The housing section made court appearances on three 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 for the winter season and will resume them in the 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 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 approval for assistance from LAMPP and construction contracts have been signed. A second application from Danbury received preliminary approval by LAMPP in December. Another Danbury property has received approval for funding from a LAMPP partner agency, the Community Renewal Team, with work scheduled to begin in March. The department has made a total of 4 referrals to LAMPP for lead assessments/education for Danbury families since LAMPP opened up the referral process.

The housing section also provides staff support for the Danbury Housing Partnership and the Danbury Fair Rent Commission. The part-time fair housing officer handled 2 fair rent inquiries and processed one formal complaint after returning to office duty during the last week of February. The associate director participated in full meetings and subcommittee meetings of the Danbury Homeless Taskforce during the reporting period.