



CITY OF DANBURY
DANBURY, CONNECTICUT 06810

HEALTH AND HOUSING DEPARTMENT
155 DEER HILL AVENUE

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May 24, 2005

TO : Danbury Common Council

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

J.K.

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

Key Indicators	This Month	Last Month	# Difference	% Difference	YTD
<i>Hazardous Materials Management (hours)</i>	207	52	155	298	908
<i>Wetlands / Water Resources Management (hours)</i>	106	96	10	10	1205
<i>Natural Resource Management Program</i>	46	29	17	59	300
<i>Administration (hours)</i>	144	117	27	23	1034
<i>Subsurface Disposal Evaluations (Septic Systems and Wells) (# of site visits)</i>	156	106	50	47	1638

Current Projects

Name	Status	Next Steps	Finish date
<p>Hazardous Materials Management</p>	<p>1) Barnum Court phytoremediation demonstration.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Meeting with Western Connecticut State University microbiologist to plan summer 2005 investigations ➤ Phone conference with EPA and project subcontractor to extend demonstration to 2005 growing season <p>2) Bioterrorism (BT) Preparedness</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Directed regional committee of Health Directors in conducting TOPOFF drill for Housatonic Area. ➤ Conducted in-service session for staff on radiation safety and monitoring ➤ Initiate planning for annual exercise of CERP and Public Health Emergency Plans 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Complete Summer 2005 investigations • Prepare manuscripts for publication <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Develop risk communication component of Public Health Emergency Plan • Develop Local Health Alert Network (LHAN) • Participate in regional planning for BT preparedness and response • Conduct HAZWOPER training for Health Department staff 	<p>December, 2005</p> <p>On-going</p>
<p>Water Resource Management</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Assist EMS in planning and organizing Still River clean-up • Issue RFP for Kenosia Lake non-chemical weed demonstration 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Direct City responsibilities in facilitating National Rivers Day clean-up of the Still River. • Select weed control contractor / direct non-chemical weed treatment demonstration 	<p>May 21, 2005</p> <p>August 2005</p>
<p>Natural Resource Management</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Initiated work of Conway School of Landscape Design in conducting an environmental assessment of Ives Trail corridor • Conduct meeting of Conservation Commission to review "Vacant Land Model Scenario" alternatives for the completion of open space inventory 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Work toward development of Trail blueprint and design. • Construct trail. • Select most appropriate model and complete report to Mayor and Common Council on open space inventory with recommendations 	<p>May, 2006</p> <p>July, 2005</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 April, 2005 can be summarized as follows.

- **Hazardous Materials Management.** In April, the EHD directed the Council of health directors in the region in their participation in the national TOPOFF exercise on April 5. Following the exercise, the Council evaluated their performance in collaborating in a regional communications network and developed several constructive alternatives for future events.

The EHD also initiated planning for the Health Department's annual exercises of its Community Emergency Response Plan, its Public Health Emergency Plan and the smallpox vaccination clinic plan.

The EHD worked with EPA on a process for extending the Phytoremediation demonstration on Barnum Court to complete the project during the 2005 growing season.

- **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 provided staff services to the Environmental Impact Commission in their review and evaluation of development projects involving wetlands and watercourses.
- **Natural Resource Management.** Work continued on planning for the Ives Trail. In April, the group initiated the work of the Conway School landscape design, which has assigned a team of graduate students to inventory the presence of sensitive habitats and rare, endangered or threatened species that coincide with the proposed trail corridor and to develop mitigative measures to avoid the impacts of passive recreation on these areas. Their work will be completed by the summer of 2005, which will lead to the production of a final trail design and a proposed budget for creating the Ives Trail. The Task Force also continued its work in developing a trail maintenance handbook, with the Assistance of the national Park Service.



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HOUSING AND FOOD SERVICE REPORT

April, 2005

INSPECTIONS

NUMBER

	This Month	Last Month	Number Diff.	% Diff.	YTD	Last YTD	Number Diff.	% Diff.
A.	471	240	231	96	2944	2825	119	4
B.	100	66	34	52	755	655	100	15
C.	142	119	23	19	1169	1221	(52)	(4)
D.	224	51	173	339	989	919	70	8
E.	72	53	19	36	832	1022	(190)	(19)
F.	15	28	(13)	(46)	208	224	(16)	(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

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. Preliminary planning is also underway for section personnel to be trained in pool inspections to join Environmental Health Section personnel in implementing a comprehensive pool inspection program.

Food service inspection totals for the month were lower than prior years due to the food inspector position vacancy. A request for personnel to fill the vacancy has been submitted and the selection process is proceeding.

The Office of the Corporation Counsel processed fifteen housing/health code referrals in April. The housing section made court appearances on two 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 section also appeared at one formal appeals hearing in Hartford.

The department has begun nuisance sweeps in downtown neighborhoods. This effort also involves distribution of pamphlets on mosquito control and prevention of West Nile Virus. 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. Danbury's first LAMPP-funded project (consisting of four units) was completed in April. A second project (involving three units) funded by LAMPP partner agency Community Renewal Team (CRT) was also completed in April. 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, processed one formal complaint, conducted one site investigation and appeared at one formal fair rent hearing. The fair housing officer also attended the annual Connecticut Fair Housing Conference held in Cromwell. Staff also attended and provided staff support for a quarterly meeting of the Danbury Housing Partnership. The associate director participated in full meetings and subcommittee meetings of the Danbury Homeless Taskforce during the reporting period.