



**CITY OF DANBURY**  
HEALTH, HOUSING & WELFARE DEPARTMENT  
155 DEER HILL AVENUE, DANBURY, CT 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

September 26, 2006

Re: Department of Health & Housing Monthly Report to the Common Council

Dear Mayor Boughton and Members of the Common Council:

The August 2006 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. Should you have any questions regarding these issues, feel free to contact myself or each Division Head directly.

Main Topics

Extreme heat advisories were issued through the Governor's office in August, and the Department worked with the Fire Department and the Mayors office to prevent heat stroke in Danbury. The Health, Housing & Welfare Department responded by following Danbury's Emergency Response Plan and conducted public education to help residents avoid heat stress and find cooling centers.

August is also Breastfeeding Awareness Month in Connecticut, and the City of Danbury WIC program initiated a celebration at the Danbury Library on August 29<sup>th</sup>, 2006.

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

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.

Additional Topics

Transition meetings continue with Patricia Bowen, Paul Schierloh, Welfare staff and I to ensure a proper transition of duties and assignments. Additional transition meetings were also continued with Mr. Dan Baroody, Senior Inspector, and me to ensure a proper transition of duties and assignments in the Environmental Health Division.

The "Healthy Neighborhood is a Lead Safe Neighborhood" collaborative with the Danbury Visiting Nurse Association (VNA) conducted the final lead screenings for the season and is finishing all DPH grant requirements.

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

Cc: Dena Diorio, Director of Finance & Personnel



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September 22, 2006

TO : Danbury Common Council

FROM: Daniel Baroody, Senior Inspector, Environmental Health Division

RE: Monthly Status Report - Environmental Health Division  
August, 2006

<b>Key Indicators</b>	<b>This Month</b>	<b>Last Month</b>	<b># Difference</b>	<b>% Difference</b>	<b>YTD</b>
<i>Hazardous Materials Management (hours)</i>	31	35	(4)	(11)	1511
<i>Wetlands / Water Resources Management (hours)</i>	186	206	(20)	(10)	2205
<i>Program Administration (hours)</i>	36	30	6	20	708
<i>Subsurface Disposal Evaluations (Septic Systems and Wells) (# of site visits)</i>	87	196	(109)	(80)	2139

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## **Program Status Report**

### **Narrative**

The status of major project and program activities of the Environmental Health Division (EHD) for August, 2006 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 weekly water quality sampling of Candlewood Lake and Lake Kenosia , public swimming areas.

**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.** The EHD continued in planning, training and preparedness activities for all hazard events as well as completion of annual contract deliverables, bioterrorism as required by the Connecticut Department of Public Health (DPH) Bioterrorism Grant.



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**HOUSING AND FOOD SERVICE REPORT**

August, 2006

**INSPECTIONS**

	NUMBER							
	This Month	Last Month	Number Diff.	% Diff.	YTD	Last YTD	Number Diff.	% Diff.
A.	344	402	(58)	(14)	746	613	133	21
B.	147	139	8	6	286	194	92	47
C.	121	178	(57)	(32)	299	272	27	10
D.	74	83	(9)	(11)	157	142	15	10
E.	131	116	15	13	247	120	127	51
F.	33	30	3	10	63	100	(37)	(37)
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.

Section personnel have completed training in pool inspections to join Environmental Health Section personnel in implementing a comprehensive pool inspection program. Two members of the section continued to conduct field inspections as part of this year's public swimming pool inspection program.

The department is nearing the completion of the renewal process for 2006-07 food service operating licenses. The department initiated the enforcement phase of the process by scheduling show hearings for 59 establishments that had either not submitted applications or whose application could not be approved due to lack of compliance with the Qualified Food Operator and designated alternate requirements, past-due reinspection fees, delinquent taxes on equipment and inspection/violation issues. Establishments that remain in violation after their show cause hearings will be issued closure orders for operating without a valid license. The department also is processing renewals for approximately forty itinerant food vendors.

The Office of the Corporation Counsel processed fourteen housing/health code referrals in August. The housing section made a court appearance on one case 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 will coordinate systematic inspections with the UNIT program this year rather than conduct nuisance sweeps independently as in prior years. Senior Housing Inspector Don Melillo will be the department's liaison with UNIT and will participate in inspections as needed. 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 receives complaints and service requests through the City's Q-Alert program.

The department 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. 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. Danbury has had two projects consisting of seven total units funded through LAMPP or LAMPP partners. There are currently three additional applications under review by LAMPP, but new there was no progress to report with respect to these projects during the reporting period. There have also been a total of 12 referrals to LAMPP for lead assessments/education for eligible Danbury families.

Lead Outreach Worker Jennifer Percec continued lead screenings for children under the Lead Safe Neighborhood grant secured by Director of Health Scott LeRoy. She also continued outreach efforts, education and case management services. During August she conducted screenings at the Salvation Army building where she tested a total of 25 children. A total of 41 children were tested in August. As of August 31, 2006, a total of 278 Danbury children have been tested for blood lead levels under this program. Jennifer will continue to conduct screenings through the VNA WOW van as well as pursue special screening clinics with day cares and community organizations.

The housing section also provides staff support for the Danbury Fair Rent Commission. The part-time fair housing officer received one housing discrimination inquiry, four fair rent inquiries, processed two formal fair rent complaints, conducted two field investigations and attended one formal hearing during August. She also attended a meeting of the Fair Rent Commission at which rules, procedures and statutes were reviewed. The officer and the associate director also assisted with re-sale inquiries and monitoring of compliance in connection with three affordable housing projects. The associate director attended a meeting of the Coalition of Connecticut Ten-Year Homeless Plan Communities in New Haven.

Welfare-Social Services Department

August 2006 Monthly Report

Following are some highlights of department activity during the past month.

\*During the August Heat Emergency / Advisory conditions the City's Emergency Shelter extended hours of operations for two days at the request of the Dorothy Day Soup Kitchen in order to allow their volunteers to provide daily meals and a place for citizens in an air conditioned facility.

\*The Department collected 358 lbs. of fruit juice during the monthly food drive which was distributed to various programs throughout the City. 6 cell phones and 16 pairs of glasses were also collected and forwarded to the Lions Club.

\*The Day Center Coordinator arranged for a Nutritionist to conduct a workshop on the premises titled Healthy Eating and Weight Control tailoring the program to the audience with advice on how to make the most of limited resources for healthier living and disease prevention. The workshop was well attended and received.

\*Surveys were completed and returned per requests from Connecticut Shelters requesting information about the City's Shelter Programs, staffing and compensation packages.

\*Meetings were begun concerning implementing a Job Opportunities / Employment Initiative for homeless veterans that will utilize existing community-city resources as well as the skills of staff already trained and certified in Employment Search Programming.

\*Advocacy and resource services involving conservator issues through the Probate Court were provided over the course of the past year and a half on behalf of a Danbury citizen. The case was successfully concluded in favor of the individual, with all parties satisfied that the process resulted in a fair, equitable and just manner.

\*Housing lists and voucher programs for public housing became available through the Danbury Housing Authority as well as in the Derby area. This information was aggressively disseminated throughout the community and applications were provided to and processed for current citizens seeking such

\*Case Worker services provided during the month included as follows:

-On site eviction process resulted in mediation services that allowed the tenant to remain housed with agreements reached with landlord.

-Special bus rate for public transportation through HART was expedited for the start of school for mother who will take her child to school using city bus.

-Mental Health services along with DSS benefits were arranged for a Danbury veteran as well as connecting him to local Veteran Administration for additional help.

*Respectfully Submitted,*

*Patricia A. Bowen  
Director*

**City of Danbury  
Department of Welfare & Social Services**

**August 2006**

**Service Activities:** Department staff record activities on a daily basis. Activities can be referrals to other agencies or they can be direct services such as emergency Rx, application completion for state or federal assistance & indigent drug programs & applications for housing; security or back rent payments. These are activities/services performed by staff at 254 Main Street and do not include the activities of the homeless services division, which are reported on separately.

Categories into which service activities fall are:

<b>Service activity category</b>	
<b>Food Assistance</b>	<b>18</b>
<b>Housing <i>in addition to those reported on below</i></b>	<b>8</b>
<b>Medical: including assessments for WOW, Americares</b>	<b>118</b>
<b>Indigent Prescription applications</b>	<b>184</b>
<b>Evictions</b>	<b>5</b>
<b>State DSS</b>	<b>47</b>
<b>Substance Abuse</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>Case management</b>	<b>9</b>
<b>Vocational</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>Neighborhood</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>Social Security</b>	<b>3</b>
<b>Energy assistance</b>	<b>3</b>
<b>Home Visits</b>	<b>3</b>
<b>Legal Issues</b>	<b>1</b>

**The following are people who requested that the City assist them with their housing problems. These individuals were assisted specifically by the department caseworker assigned to housing issues.**

**Housing services requests: 18**

- 2- seeking housing search assistance; housed, 2 pending, refused, referred
- 9-seeking back rent assistance: 6 pending; 1 granted; 1 denied; 1 referred
- 4-needing housing retention services; retained; 1 lost; 3 advocacy
- 3-received assistance with some other aspect of housing, legal referrals, mediation etc.

**The requests consisted of the following family compositions:**

- 9 single adults; 5 elderly; 4 disabled
- 5 single parent families with a total of 10 children
- 3 2-parent family with a total of 11 children
- 2 adult couples; 1 elderly

**City's Emergency Shelter**

**Day Center**

- 117-Different homeless people were provided services during the month
- 23-Initial assessments were completed
- 5-Persons found housing or were placed in housing programs
- 20- Mental Health Referrals
- 19- Persons found employment

A total of 379 different services were provided during this month in addition to the above.

**Night Shelter**

- 36-different people utilized the night shelter
- 3-people were turned away for reasons other than lack of bed space
- 2- persons turned away for lack of beds
- 93% overall occupancy rate for the month