



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

November 28, 2006

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

Dear Mayor Boughton and Members of the Common Council:

The October 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

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.

On October 4, 2006, the Department attended the ribbon cutting ceremony to celebrate the grand opening of the Dream Homes Community center on Main St; as well as the DVNA Annual FLU prevention campaign during the Rotary Club meeting.

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

Additional Topics

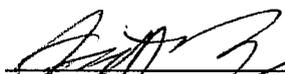
Transition meetings are being continued with Patricia Bowen, Paul Schierloh, Welfare staff and I to ensure a proper transition of duties and assignments in preparation for Ms. Bowen's retirement. Additional transition meetings were also continued with Mr. Dan Baroody, Senior Inspector, and me to ensure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

A Common Council Sub-Committee also meet on October 23, 2006, to review the Danbury Housing Partnership Ordinance and voted to adopt the changes to the Ordinance as discussed during the meeting. Public Hearings were held on November 27, 2006, for public input and Common Council voted unanimously to approve the ordinance at the next Common Council meeting.

The City of Danbury also participated in National Influenza Vaccination Week from November 27 to December 3, 2006, by providing public education concerning the importance of flu prevention and being vaccinated to prevent the flu. The attached flyer provides this information, as well as the locations of DVNA FLU clinics to be held during December and January.

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

11/22/2006: City of Danbury Participates in National Influenza Vaccination Week

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contact: Elisa Munoz
203-797-4511
November 22, 2006

CITY OF DANBURY PARTICIPATES IN NATIONAL INFLUENZA VACCINATION WEEK

The City of Danbury's Health, Housing and Welfare Department will participate in this year's National Influenza Vaccination Week with Flu Clinics throughout the city. These clinics will be run by the Danbury Visiting Nurses Association.

Mayor Mark Boughton explained, "**The City of Danbury's Health Department hopes to bring awareness and prevention of the flu to our residents through multiple, citywide Flu Clinics. The vaccine is especially important for those at high risk of catching the flu including the elderly, children and health-care workers.**"

Every year, 5 to 20 percent of the population gets the flu, more than 200,000 people are hospitalized with flu complications, and about 36,000 people die from the flu. To help raise awareness about the importance of influenza vaccination in November and beyond, the United States Department of Health and Human Services (HHS), including the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), the National Influenza Vaccine Summit and other partners announce a National Influenza Vaccination Week (NIVW) to take place from Monday, November 27 through Sunday, December 3, 2006.

The flu is an infection of the respiratory tract caused by the influenza virus. It is a highly contagious disease. Although most people who get the flu recover within 1-2 weeks, the flu can cause more severe, and in some cases, life-threatening complications such as pneumonia, particularly in children and the elderly, as well as people with certain medical conditions such as asthma and diabetes. The best time to get influenza vaccination is between October and January.

Remaining 2006 Flu Clinics:

Tuesday Nov 28 5-7pm C-Town-45 North St., Danbury
Wednesday Nov 29 10-12pm PAL-35 Hayestown Rd., Danbury
Monday Dec 4 10-12pm PAL-35 Hayestown Rd., Danbury
Tuesday Dec 5 5-7pm C-Town,45 North St., Danbury
Tuesday Dec 12 5-7pm C-Town, 45 North St., Danbury
Wednesday Dec 13 10-12pm PAL-35 Hayestown Rd., Danbury
Wednesday Dec 20 10-12-pm PAL-35 Hayestown Rd., Danbury
Wednesday Dec 27 10-12pm PAL-35 Hayestown Rd., Danbury
Wednesday Jan 3 10-12pm PAL-35 Hayestown Rd., Danbury
Wednesday Jan 10 10-12 pm PAL-35 Hayestown Rd., Danbury

If you have any questions regarding this press release please contact Health, Housing and Welfare Director, Scott LeRoy, at 797-4625 or Elisa Munoz in the Mayor's Office at 797-4511.



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November 22, 2006

TO : Danbury Common Council

FROM: Daniel Baroody, Senior Inspector, Environmental Health Division 

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

Key Indicators	This Month	Last Month	# Difference	% Difference	YTD
<i>Hazardous Materials Management & Public Health Preparedness (hours)</i>	166	146	20	14	1823
<i>Wetlands / Water Resources Management (hours)</i>	185	187	(2)	(1)	2577
<i>Program Administration (hours)</i>	49	45	4	11	802
<i>Subsurface Disposal Evaluations (Septic Systems and Wells) (# of site visits)</i>	160	139	28	5	2438

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Program Status Report

Narrative

The status of major project and program activities of the Environmental Health Division (EHD) for October, 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 site investigations of complaints and construction activities along the shore front of Candlewood Lake in cooperation with The Candlewood Lake Authority (CLA),

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 EHD participated in a Mass Dispensing, Point of Distribution (POD) mock drill held by the Bethel and Redding Health Departments. The purpose of the drill was to test Health Departments' response to a major public health emergency. Danbury will be credited under the Connecticut Department of Public Health (DPH) Bioterrorism Grant for taking part in the drill. The EHD continued in planning, training and preparedness activities for all hazard events required by the Connecticut Department of Public Health (DPH) Bioterrorism Grant.

Following are some highlights / information of Department activity.

The Department collected 188 lbs. of Rice and Boxed potatoes during the monthly food drive which was distributed to various programs throughout the City. 3 cell phones, 2 hearing aides and 22 pairs of glasses were also collected and forwarded to the Lions Club.

The Director of the Department and the Project Director for Maturity Works met and discussed the current criteria and reporting requirements for the Senior Aide working in the Main Street office. The possibility of obtaining another person through this program assigned to the Day Center / Emergency Shelter was also discussed and confirmed that the current agreement would allow such expansion. Actions to begin this process commenced.

The Blind Brook Neighborhood Association held an important general meeting for area residents. Representatives from the Housing Development Fund and the Neighborhood Revitalization Consultants presented information to attendees about below market rate financing available for purchase and rehabilitation of properties in the neighborhood. This meeting was the culmination of one and a half years work by the Neighborhood Association in developing a Revitalization Plan and moved their efforts to this next step.

Blind Brook Neighborhood Playground located at the end of William Street was officially opened on Saturday, October 28th, with a Ribbon Cutting by Mayor Boughton, Chair of the Association Barbara Braquez, Association Members, City Officials as well as other interested parties. The celebration was accompanied by torrential rains but did not dampen the joy of this accomplishment

The Coordinator of the Day Center met with representatives from Dream Homes Community Center (DHCC). Representatives received an in depth informative session of the services available through and by the City's Homeless Division as well as a tour of the facility. Such positive steps are necessary as the 10 Year Plan to End Homelessness begins to be put into operation.

Putnam County will open an Emergency Homeless Shelter in Brewster for the first time ever, in the first week in December. Calls for shelter are already being received here from agencies and people in that area and are being referred to the listed telephone number for assistance. This new service should provide needed relief for our local shelters.

Day Center Coordinator and three people who utilize the services of the Homeless Shelter presented a panel discussion at WCSU at the invitation of a Sociology Professor. Such local involvement with the University occurs periodically throughout the year.

Submitted by: Patricia A. Bowen

Director, Welfare - Social Services

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:

Service activity category	
Food Assistance	2
Housing <i>in addition to those reported on below</i>	3
Medical: including assessments for WOW, Americares	87
Indigent Prescription applications	187
Evictions	7
State DSS	36
Substance Abuse	1
Case management	3
Vocational	--
Neighborhood	5
Social Security	2
Energy assistance	6
Home Visits	1
Legal Issues	1
Other	3

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: 44

- 5 - seeking housing search assistance; housed, 3 pending, refused, 2 referred
- 17 -seeking back rent assistance: 11 pending; 3 granted; 3 denied; referred
- 12 -needing housing retention services; 1 retained; lost; 12 advocacy
- 1 -received assistance with some other aspect of housing, legal referrals, mediation etc.

The requests consisted of the following family compositions:

- 18- single adults; 5 elderly; 4 disabled
- 22- single parent families with a total of 35 children
- 3-2-parent family with a total of 7 children
- 1-adult couples; 1 elderly
- emancipated youth

City's Emergency Shelter

*** Day Center**

- 139--Different homeless people were provided services during the month
- 40---Initial assessments were completed
- 5---Persons found housing or were placed in housing programs
- 26---Mental Health Referrals
- 28---Persons found employment

A total of 365 different services were provided during this month in addition.

***Night Shelter**

- 45--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
- 97%--overall occupancy rate for the month

Quarterly Report to DSS attached



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HOUSING AND FOOD SERVICE REPORT

October, 2006

INSPECTIONS

NUMBER

	This Month	Last Month	Number Diff.	% Diff.	YTD	Last YTD	Number Diff.	% Diff.
A.	371	339	32	9	1456	1114	342	30
B.	131	145	(14)	(10)	562	363	199	54
C.	175	137	38	27	611	505	106	21
D.	62	51	11	21	270	234	36	15
E.	120	138	(18)	(13)	505	223	282	126
F.	29	42	(13)	(31)	134	173	(39)	(23)

- 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

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NARRATIVE FOR MONTHLY REPORT

HOUSING AND FOOD PROTECTION PROGRAM

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.

One additional section member has been registered to complete the initial three-day lead inspector certification training in December. Food service recertification training with the Connecticut Department of Public Health is scheduled for November.

Food service inspectors assisted the State Department of Public Health and State Department of Consumer Protection with respect to a recall of potentially contaminated meat in Connecticut.

The Office of the Corporation Counsel processed eleven housing/health code referrals in October. 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 department has been asked to participate in systematic inspections with the UNIT program as needed. Senior Housing Inspector Don Melillo has been designated to be the department's liaison with UNIT and will participate in inspections as requested. 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 two additional applications awaiting action by LAMPP, but there was no progress to report with respect to these proposed projects. There have been a total of 13 Danbury referrals to LAMPP for lead assessments and counseling.

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