

Environmental Health

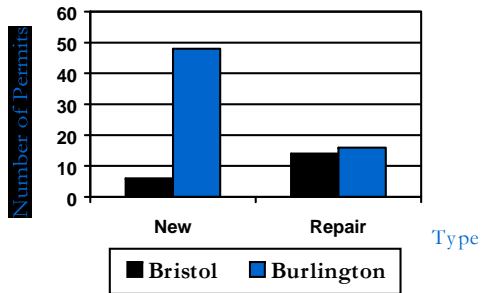
Septic and Sewage

The environmental staff reviews septic system designs, inspects septic systems, and conducts soil testing for new and repairs of sewage disposal systems.

The State requires a property owner with an on-site septic system to obtain a permit from the health department prior to any building conversions, change in use, or building additions including, but not limited to, decks, sheds, and pools.

Plans Reviewed	94
Inspections	335
Soil testing	594
Building additions (B100 permits)	57
WPCA Monitoring Program	39

Septic Permits Issued FY 00-01



Private Wells

The environmental staff permits and inspects construction sites of all private wells within the District. We require testing for bacteriological, chemistry and volatile organic chemicals on all new wells. The staff is available to assist in the interpretation of water results and resolutions to related well water problems.

Well Permits	51
Private well water samples	68

Water Quality

We inspect and test public bathing areas weekly and outdoor swimming pools regularly throughout the summer season.

Pool inspections	39
Bathing Area Inspections & Tests	170

Housing Code Enforcement

Housing code complaints are investigated with assistance from the Bristol Building Department as needed. The District adopted a Housing Sanitary Code because there is no State of Connecticut housing code. When necessary, violators are issued an order letter and/or are litigated through the New Britain Superior Court.

Housing Complaint Inspections	238
Director of Health Orders	14
Court Litigations	5
Childhood Lead Investigations	2

Food Protection Program

Prevention of foodborne illness is the primary goal for inspecting restaurants, schools, itinerant vendors and all other food establishments. BBHD requires certification of all food handlers and provides monthly training classes for food workers.

Licensed Establishments	236
Food Service Inspections and Follow-Up	627
Food Handlers Certified	302

Complaints

Numerous complaints are reported throughout the year. We are responsible for responding to the complaints and conducting proper follow-up.

Refuse	27
Sewage	15
Oil spills and Chemical Spills	100
Air pollution	2

Community Health

COMMUNICABLE DISEASES

Influenza and Pneumonia Immunizations

There was a delay in the availability of influenza vaccine in the fall of 2000. BBHD worked with local providers to guarantee that those at greatest risk got the vaccines. Early clinics were restricted to persons 65 years of age and older.

Flu Vaccines Administered	1,159
Pneumovax Vaccines Administered	86

Reportable Diseases

Communicable diseases pose a significant public health challenge because they can be transmitted to others in a variety of ways. Reporting of these diseases by physicians and laboratories is extremely important so that health officials can do proper follow-up, control, and surveillance.

Campylobacter	9
E. coli O157:H7	1
Salmonella	14
Vancomycin Resistant Enterococci	3
Giardia	8
Chlamydia	53
Gonorrhea	9
Syphilis	5
Hepatitis B	18
Hepatitis C	131
Influenza Type A	4
Invasive Pneumococcal Disease	15
Invasive Strep B	6
TB Infection	15
TB Disease	2
Lyme Disease	68
Elevated Lead (venous; child < 6 y.o.)	2
Pertussis (Whooping Cough)	1

HIV/AIDS Counseling, Testing, & Case Management

BBHD is proud to have HIV/AIDS Counseling and Testing as part of the available services. We have been offering confidential counseling and testing since December 1999, and case management since April 2000.

Counseling and Testing	26
Case Management Clients	13

Rabies Activity

Potential animal carriers are sent to the State Laboratory for testing. This information is extremely important for monitoring rabies prevalence in our community, as well as for proper follow-up should there be a human or domestic animal exposure.

	Animals Tested
Bristol: 32	Positives: 1 raccoon
Burlington: 11	Positives: 1 bat, 1 raccoon

At our annual Rabies Clinic, 97 cats and dogs were vaccinated.

Immunization Clinic

Residents of Bristol and Burlington may come to our office during clinic hours to receive low-cost vaccinations and TB testing. The clinic is open Tuesdays 8:30-10:00 a.m. and Thursdays 3:00-4:30 p.m.

Vaccines administered	431
TB Screenings	141

SCHOOL HEALTH

School Nursing

We provide comprehensive school health services to all Bristol schools. These services include mandated screenings for scoliosis and vision.

Visits to School Health Room	86,084
Medications Administered	26,617
Vision Screenings & Rescreenings	6,917
Scoliosis Screenings	3,700
School & Sports Physicals	15

School Dental Program

We provide dental exams, cleanings, and referrals to all Bristol elementary school students in grades K-5.

Children Screened	3,422
Dental Cleanings	1,569
Notices for Follow-Up	2,473

CHRONIC DISEASES

Bristol Dental Program for the Elderly

This program offers dental cleaning and screening in an effort to improve the oral health of those over 60 years old in our community. Referral services are also available at a reasonable cost. Applications are available at the Health District office.

Exams and Cleanings	228
Referrals	76

Burlington Senior Programs

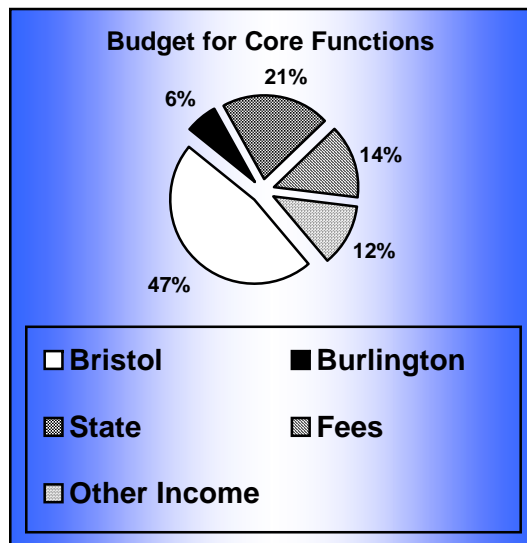
- We conduct a monthly clinic at the Burlington Senior Center offering basic health screenings and education.

Visits made by participants	132
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- More extensive health screening services are available yearly to Burlington residents through Elderly Health Screening Services, Inc. They provide affordable health screenings (including Pap tests, breast exams, prostate exams, and electrocardiograms) at the Senior Center.

Testing and Exams	4
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Funding Information



BBHD is funded on a per capita formula based on Connecticut General Statutes. During fiscal year 2000-01 the District received \$5.16 per capita from the participating towns and the legislature increased the per capita from the State to \$1.99. Additional fees are generated through the issuance of permits and licenses. District Core Function expenditures were \$646,417. In addition, the City of Bristol funds the School Health Program (\$670,731) and the School Dental Health Program (\$150,853) for a total operating budget of \$1,468,001.

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Administrative Staff

Jill Roy
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※ Highlights ※

Community Health Surveys

Bristol Health Concerns Survey

Four hundred (400) residents participated in this survey that was intended to get a pulse on the health concerns and perceptions of the Bristol community.

The top 3 priorities identified were:

1. Alcohol and drug use by youth
2. Alcohol and drug use by adults
3. All restaurants should be smoke-free

Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance Survey

Four hundred three (403) Bristol residents participated in an extensive health survey that addressed individual risk factors for disease (behavior) and their effect on one's health and quality of life. Modeled after a survey that has been conducted by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention for over 20 years, the BBHD will use the information to create a health profile for the City of Bristol. Through the identification of behaviors that put residents at risk for ill-health, the BBHD will work with the Bristol Community Wellness Coalition and other community partners to create a strategic plan, increase quality of life, and reduce the burden of disease in our residents. This will include educational campaigns and prevention programs offered to the community. Results of this survey should be available later in the year.

HIV/AIDS

Through a series of assessments the BBHD determined that as many as 125 people in Bristol may be affected by HIV disease. About one-third of affected persons are women. Almost half of all persons with HIV/AIDS are less than 40 years old. A survey of knowledge and behaviors showed that most people had knowledge about the disease and how it is transmitted, but still practiced behaviors that put them at risk for infection.

(Highlights continued on back page!)

※ Highlights ※

Bioterrorism Preparedness

The United States Department of Justice (DOJ), in partnership with the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), conducted an assessment of the level of community preparedness in the event that a bioterrorist attack were to occur. The DOJ sought to have each county or local health jurisdiction complete the Public Health Emergency Preparedness Assessment (PHEPA). In doing so, the DOJ would be able to determine which places are in need of certain resources and where protocols need to be developed. In December of 2000 the BBHD, in conjunction with Mayor Nicastro, the Fire Dept., the Police Dept., and the Local Emergency Planning Committee, successfully completed and submitted the PHEPA.

West Nile Virus (WNV)

During the summer of 2000, there was widespread WNV activity in Connecticut. The State bird surveillance system identified 1,095 positive crows from 110 towns. BBHD submitted 8 crows for testing, of which 3 were positive for the virus. WNV was also isolated from 7 horses and 14 pools of mosquitoes in the state. Only one case of mild illness in a person was attributed to WNV. Bristol and Burlington conducted larviciding of storm drains in a 2-mile area when the first bird was identified in August. BBHD asks your cooperation in reporting sightings of dead birds this summer. Only crows will be accepted for testing. Residents are asked to take personal precautionary measures and to eliminate standing water on their property. For more information please visit our website at: www.ci.bristol.ct.us/BBHealth/BBHMain.htm.

Upcoming Projects

BBHD will be offering a special Smoking Cessation program, beginning in January 2002. Residents of Bristol and Burlington looking to quit smoking are encouraged to participate. This 11-week program will provide either the nicotine patch or Zyban to participants.

Bristol-Burlington



Health District

Annual Report 2000-2001

Hours of Operation
Monday through Friday
8:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.
Phone: (860) 584-7682
Fax: (860) 584-3814

24-hour Emergency Number
(860) 320-6308

*Serving the communities of Bristol and
Burlington since 1979.*