

# Environmental Health

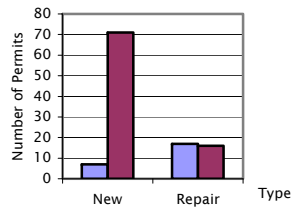
## Septic and Sewage

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	106
Inspections	261
Soil testing	209
Building additions (B100 permits)	69
WPCA Monitoring Program	36

Septic Permits Issued FY 01-02



Legend: ■ Bristol ■ Burlington

## 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	113
Private well water samples	51

## 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	163

## 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	209
Director of Health Orders	13
Court Litigations	16
Childhood Lead Investigations	5

## Food Protection Program

Prevention of food borne 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	252
Food Service Inspections and Follow-Up	480
Food Handlers Certified	276

## Complaints

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

Refuse	49
Sewage	14
Oil spills and Chemical Spills	129
Air pollution	0

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# Community Health

## COMMUNICABLE DISEASES

### Influenza and Pneumonia Immunizations

Early clinics were restricted to persons 65 years of age and older.

Flu Vaccines Administered	1,328
Pneumovax Vaccines Administered	52

### 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	8
Salmonella	14
Shigella	2
Vancomycin Resistant Enterococci	1
Giardia	8
Chlamydia	71
Gonorrhea	13
Syphilis	3
Haemophilus influenza	5
Hepatitis A	3
Hepatitis B	21
Hepatitis C	162
Invasive Pneumococcal Disease	15
Invasive Staph aureus (MRSA)	13
Invasive Strep A	3
Invasive Strep B	10
TB Infection	40
TB Disease	4
Lyme Disease	40
Ehrlichiosis	3
Elevated Lead (venous; child < 6 y.o.)	4
Mumps	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	23
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: 46	Positives: 2 raccoon
Burlington: 21	Positives: 1 bat, 2 raccoon

At our annual Rabies Clinic, 157 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 now open Mondays and Thursdays 3:00-4:30 p.m. and Tuesdays 8:30-10:00 a.m.

Vaccines administered	337
TB Screenings	168

## 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	86,867
Medications Administered	18,770
Vision Screenings & Rescreenings	7,722
Scoliosis Screenings	3,124

### School Dental Program

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

Children Screened	3,412
Dental Cleanings	1,496
Notices for Follow-Up	2,459

## SENIOR HEALTH

### Bristol Senior Programs

- Bristol Dental program for the elderly. This program offers dental cleaning, screening and referral services at a reasonable cost. Applications are available at the Health District office.

Exams and Cleanings	345
Referrals	93

- Komanetsky Estates Congregate Housing. As of February 2002, BBHD started a monthly clinic at the Komanetsky Estates offering basic health screenings and education.

Clinic visits	25
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### Burlington Senior Programs

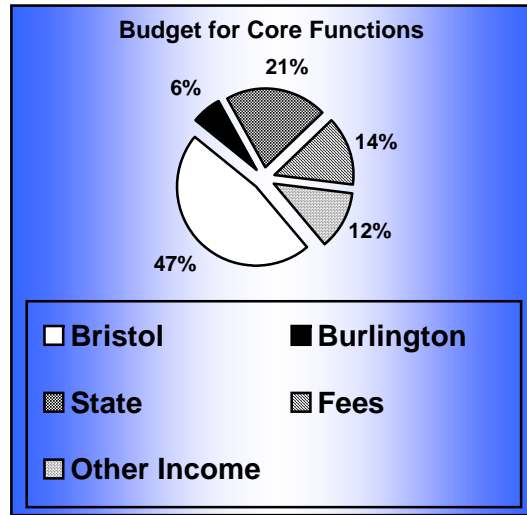
- We conduct a monthly clinic at the Burlington Senior Center.

Clinic visits	98
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- More extensive and affordable health screening Services (including Pap tests, breast exams, prostate exams, and electrocardiograms) are available yearly to Burlington residents through Elderly Health Screening Services, Inc. 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 2001-02 the District received \$5.16 per capita from the participating towns and \$1.99 per capita from the State. Additional fees are generated through the issuance of permits and licenses. District Core Function expenditures were \$649,959. In addition, the City of Bristol funds the School Health Program (\$706,169) and the School Dental Health Program (\$160,283) for a total operating budget of \$1,516,888.

### Board of Directors

Thomas O'Brien, Chairman      Merton Baehr  
William Brownstein, MD      Mary Ann Schwarzmann  
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### Director of Health

Patricia J. Checko, Dr.P.H, MPH

### Director of Community Health

Catherine Sheehan, MPH, RN

### Chief Sanitarian

Phyllis Amodio, RS

### Administrative Staff

Jill Roy  
Elsie Caban  
Kathleen Beaman

## ※ Highlights ※

### Smoking Cessation Program



BBHD offered two smoking cessation programs in January and April of 2002, using American Lung Association's Freedom From Smoking Plus® Program. Forty Bristol and Burlington residents participated in these programs. In conjunction with the behavior modification program, participants were provided either the nicotine patch or Zyban during the 11-week sessions. If both were used, Zyban was provided free of cost and the nicotine patch was purchased by the participant. Follow-up is conducted at 3 month, 6 month, and 1 year.

### The Connecticut Immunization Action Plan (IAP)



BBHD is now participating in the state's immunization initiative to maintain and increase immunization levels among pre-school children by engaging in activities designed to improve vaccine delivery, tracking, out reach, referral, education and assessment. Our IAP Coordinator is working with area providers to implement a statewide immunization registry. (CT Immunization Registry and Tracking System i.e.-**CIRTS**)

### West Nile Virus (WNV)



During 2001 in Connecticut, WNV activity was most intense from mid-August through late September. In Connecticut, six human cases of WNV were reported with one fatality. The State bird surveillance system identified 422 positive crows from 69 towns in seven Connecticut counties. BBHD submitted 1 crow for testing which tested negative for the virus. BBHD asks your cooperation in reporting sightings of dead birds this summer. The state is not spraying in any area where positive mosquitoes have been found. 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](http://www.ci.bristol.ct.us/BBHealth/BBHMain.htm).

*(Highlights continued on back page!)*

## ※ Highlights ※

### Bioterrorism Preparedness



On October 4, 2001, the Florida Health Department and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) confirmed the first case of inhalational anthrax in the United States in more than 25 years. From October 4 to November 20, 2001, 22 cases of anthrax were identified. Five of the inhalational cases were fatal, including a 94-year-old resident of Oxford, Connecticut. The substantial role of public health in the anthrax investigation and response and the heightened concern for the potential use of agents such as smallpox have drawn attention to the need for strong public health infrastructure to control and prevent future bioterrorism threats. The Connecticut Department of Public Health received \$12 million dollars from the CDC for Bioterrorism and Emergency Preparedness and set aside approximately \$1 million dollars, on a per capita basis, for local health departments and districts to develop bioterrorism response plans for our health departments and work with our communities to develop and drill our local plans.

### Upcoming Projects HIV/AIDS



As a result of grant funding from Connecticut Department of Public Health and CDC, BBHD health educator will provide health education to increase HIV/AIDS awareness among Bristol-Burlington residents. An outreach worker will work with targeted high-risk population.

### Oral Health Program



The Bristol-Burlington Oral Health Initiative is now an active partner with Connecticut Community Oral Health Systems Development Project (CCOHP). We are developing a community network to assess, evaluate, plan and promote programs that will improve access to oral health needs in our community. Our aim is to continue to follow the national goals set in Healthy People 2010 to reduce periodontal disease and to reduce the proportion of older adults who have their natural teeth extracted.



## Annual Report 2001-2002

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.*