

Environmental Health

The Environmental Health Program enforces state and local codes related to providing a safe and healthy environment.

Septic and Sewage

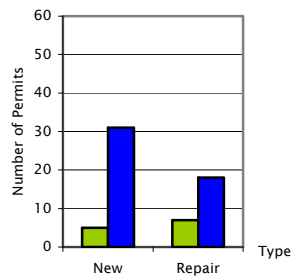
The environmental staff is responsible for the issuance of permits for onsite sewage disposal facilities. The location and method of installation are governed by the Public Health Code and are enforced by the Health District. Property owner with an on-site septic system must obtain a permit prior to any building conversions, change in use, or building additions including, but not limited to decks, sheds, and pools.

Plans Reviewed	60
Inspections	100
Soil testing	413
Building additions (B100 permits)	50

Private Wells

The environmental staff is responsible for well water testing. They issue permits and inspect construction sites of all private wells within the district. BBHD staff is also available to assist in the interpretation of water results and resolutions to related well water problems.

Septic Permits Issued FY 05-06



■ Bristol ■ Burlington

Well Permits	35
Private well water samples	10

Day care water samples	9
Burlington town hall, garage, library well water samples	17

Water Quality

The environmental health staff inspects and tests public bathing areas and outdoor swimming pools on a routine basis throughout the summer season.

Pool inspections	66
Bathing Area Inspections & Tests	126

Housing Code Enforcement

In October 2005, the City of Bristol adopted the Housing and Property Maintenance Code. The Health District coordinates with the Bristol Building, Police and Fire Departments to enforce this local ordinance. The code applies to both rental and owner occupied properties in Bristol.

Housing complaints can be made by contacting the Health District. Complaints are investigated to determine if a violation exists.

Housing Complaints Received	259
Warning Notices issued	52
Orders Violation Notices issued	45
Citations issued (per property)	10

Lead

Lead poisoning is one of the most common yet preventable diseases in children. Even relatively low levels of lead may lead to changes to the nervous system and brain, interfere with growth and contribute to learning difficulties.

BBHD staff provides comprehensive lead investigations as required by the CT Department of Public Health. The comprehensive lead investigation includes a questionnaire about possible lead exposure, lead dust hazard analysis, water testing, soil testing and testing of all interior and exterior painted surfaces.

Childhood Lead Investigations	1
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Food Protection Program

Prevention of foodborne illness is the primary goal for inspecting restaurants, schools, temporary vendors and all other food establishments. BBHD also requires certification of all food handlers and provides training classes for food workers. Outbreaks of foodborne illness are investigated by the health department.

Licensed Establishments	253
Food Service Inspections and Follow-Up	594

Other Complaints

Numerous complaints are reported throughout the year. The health department is responsible for responding to the complaints and conducting proper follow-up.

Refuse	14
Sewage	7
Oil spills and Chemical Spills	61
Radon	1
Food Service	41

Community Health

The Community Health Section coordinates programs and services geared toward the prevention of diseases and the promotion of healthy behaviors.

COMMUNICABLE DISEASES

Influenza Vaccinations

Flu vaccine was given to residents of Bristol and Burlington who are 18 years and older.

Flu Vaccines Administered	1,186
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Reportable Diseases

Health District staff provides monitoring, control and follow-up of communicable diseases including tuberculosis, hepatitis, sexually transmitted diseases, foodborne illness and other reportable diseases as required by the State Public Health Code.

Rabies Activity

The health district works with the animal control officers in Bristol and Burlington to monitor the rabies activity in our communities. BBHD staff also provides follow-up when there is a human or domestic animal exposure. Potential animal carriers are sent to the State Laboratory for testing. The Health District also offers a Rabies Clinic to provide vaccinations for cats and dogs.

Animals Tested

Bristol: 19	Positives: 1 bat, 1 raccoon
Burlington: 4	Positives: 1 skunk

At our annual Rabies Clinic, 136 cats and dogs were vaccinated.

HIV/AIDS Preventative Clinical Services



Counseling and testing services using the 20 minute OraQuick ADVANCE test are available at no cost at the Health District office and at various sites in the community including the

Bristol Housing Authority, Alternative Incarceration Centers, and St. Vincent DePaul Shelter.

Appointments for HIV Counseling and Testing can be made by contacting the Health District office.

Immunization Clinic

Children under 18 years of age who reside in Bristol or Burlington are able to receive free vaccinations at the Health District office. Tuberculosis screening is available for Bristol and Burlington residents for a small fee.

The Health District Immunization Clinic is currently open every Monday from 3:00 p.m. to 4:30 p.m., every Thursday from 3:00 p.m. to 4:30 p.m. and every Tuesday from 8:30 a.m. to 10:00 a.m.

(EXCEPT HOLIDAYS).

Vaccines administered	217
TB Screenings	83

SCHOOL HEALTH

School Health Services

Health District staff provides comprehensive health services to all of the public and parochial schools in the city of Bristol. Services include mandated screenings for vision and scoliosis, emergency care and first aid, evaluation of illness and care as appropriate, medication administration during school hours, and communicable disease education and prevention.

Visits to School Health Room	78,584
Medications Administered	18,771
Vision Screenings & Rescreenings	5,972
Scoliosis Screenings	2,510
Head Lice Screenings	6,158
Students Dismissed	7,120
Accidents	238
Emergencies	68

School Dental Program

The Health District registered dental hygienists provide a school-based dental program for students in grades K-5 in all Bristol schools. Children receive a visual oral screening, cleanings and dental referrals as appropriate.

Children Screened	3,059
Dental Cleanings	126
Notices for Follow-Up	3,185
Emergency Care	219

SENIOR HEALTH

BBHD Dental Program for the Elderly

This Health District program offers dental exam, cleaning and referral services to residents of Bristol, Burlington and Plymouth who are 60 years of age and older. The program receives support from the North Central Area Agency on Aging, the Teddy Bear Jamboree, and the Women's Service Organization of Bristol.

Exams and Cleanings	513
Referrals	134

BBHD also provides blood pressure monitoring and education free of charge to residents of Bristol and Burlington.

Number of people served	64
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HEALTH EDUCATION

The Health District is responsible for promoting good health through education and training programs. These programs are designed to reduce the risk for certain diseases and promote the health and safety of its residents. BBHD applies for available funding to address specific concerns. In addition, the Health District evaluates existing and emerging trends and regularly seeks funding for identified issues. These programs are provided to Bristol and Burlington residents at low or no cost. Current projects address issues related to cancer prevention and control, public health emergency preparedness and smoking cessation.

Comprehensive Cancer Control Planning

As a part of the FY 2006-2007 Comprehensive Cancer Planning Federal Block Grant, the Bristol-Burlington Health District partnered with the East Hartford Health & Social Services Department and the Hartford Health & Human Services Department to sponsor a Cancer Summit in June 2007.

Smoking Cessation Program



BBHD offered a smoking cessation program in January 2007, using the American Lung Association's Freedom From Smoking Plus® Program. Follow-up is conducted at three, six and twelve months.

HIV/AIDS Education



The Bristol Mayor's Task Force on HIV/AIDS which is co-chaired by Health District staff coordinated an educational forum for health care providers and prevention specialists in April 2007.

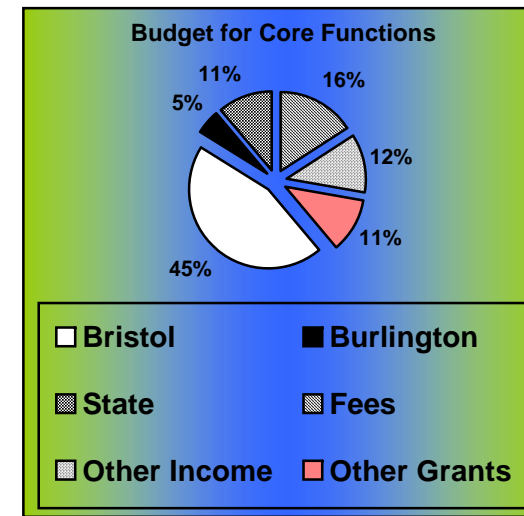


PUBLIC HEALTH EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS

The Health District is actively involved in planning for public health emergencies at the local, regional and state levels. Staff has also provided educational forums on preparing for a pandemic influenza.

For more information on how you can get involved, contact the Health District office.

Funding Information



BBHD is funded on a per capita formula based on CT General Statutes. During fiscal year 2006-07 the District received \$6.58 per capita from the participating towns and \$1.66 per capita from the State. Additional fees are generated through the issuance of permits and licenses. District Core Function expenditures were \$996,683. The City of Bristol funds the School Health Program (\$1,534,357) the School Dental Health Program (\$184,537) and the housing program (\$126,549) for a total operating budget of \$2,842,126.

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Annual Report 2006-2007

Hours of Operation
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Serving the communities of Bristol and Burlington since 1979.