

Environmental Health

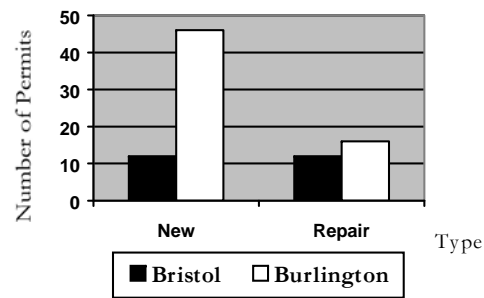
Septic and Sewage

The environmental staff is responsible for review of septic system designs, system inspections, and soil testing for new and repairs of sewage disposal systems.

Since August 1998, the State requires any 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	132
Inspections	338
Soil testing	520
Building additions (B100 permits)	84
WPCA Monitoring Program.....	

Building Permits Issued FY 98-99



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	104
Private well water samples	28

Water Quality

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

Pool inspections	42
Bathing Area Inspections & Tests	197

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. As a result of some inspections, violators are issued an order letter and/or are litigated through the New Britain Superior Court.

Housing Inspections	248
Complaints Investigated.....	
Director of Health Orders	9
Court Litigation	22
Lead Investigations	3

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	282
Food Service Inspections and Follow-Up	596
Food Handlers Certified	398

★ Achieved 100% compliance with new requirements for Qualified Food Operator on site.

Complaints

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

Refuse	89
Sewage	12
Oil spills	12
Air pollution	2

Community Health

COMMUNICABLE DISEASES

Influenza and Pneumonia Immunizations

Influenza and pneumonia significantly impact individuals 65 years of age and older each year. Immunization is the most effective strategy against influenza.

Flu Administered	1,167
Pneumovax Administered	106

Reportable Diseases

Communicable diseases pose a significant public health challenge due to the fact that they can be transmitted to others through many different 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	6
<i>E. coli</i>	2
Salmonella	15
Shigella	1
Vancomycin Resistant Enterococci	2
Giardia	9
Chlamydia	54
Gonorrhea	11
Syphilis	7
Hepatitis A	1
Hepatitis B	11
Hepatitis C	22
Pertussis (Whooping Cough)	1
Invasive Pneumococcal Disease	13
TB Infection	15
TB Disease	1
Lyme Disease	22

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: 30	Positives: 2 raccoons
Burlington: 9	Positives: 1 raccoon

At our annual Rabies Clinic, 81 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	236
TB Screenings	101

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	74,596
Vision Screenings & Rescreenings	5,210
Scoliosis Screenings	2,888
School & Sports Physicals	155

School Dental Program

We provide dental exams, cleanings, and referrals to all Bristol elementary school students.

Children Screened	3,201
Teeth Cleanings	1,484
Notices for Follow-Up	691

CHRONIC DISEASES

Bristol Dental Program for the Elderly

Opened September 3, 1998, 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	121
Referrals	34

Komanetsky Estates Admissions

Komanetsky Estates is a congregate housing facility for the elderly. We provided 13 health assessments and evaluations for prospective residents in order to assure the facility was suitable for their needs.

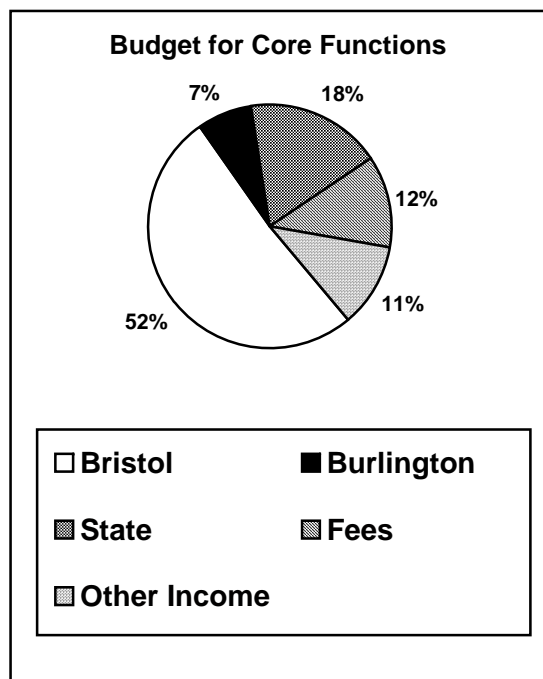
Burlington Senior Programs

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

Visits made by participants	156
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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	5
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Funding Information



BBHD is funded on a per capita formula based on Connecticut General Statutes. During FY 99, the District received \$5.68 per capita from the participating towns and \$1.52 per capita from the State. Additional fees are generated through the issuance of permits and licenses. District Core Function expenditures were \$656,541. In addition, the City of Bristol funds the School Health program (\$621,072) and the School Dental Health Program (\$142,227) for a total operating budget of \$1,419,840.

This year the Connecticut General Assembly approved an additional \$0.25 increase in the per capita appropriation for health districts. The Connecticut Association of Directors of Health (CADH) was instrumental in obtaining these additional funds. Dr. Checko serves as the President of CADH.

Bristol Burlington Health District

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



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**The BBHD will celebrate its 20th
Anniversary in October 1999!**

★ Highlights ★

Disease Prevention and Control Programs

The following programs were offered at no cost to District residents:

- ◆ *Physical Activity* – Two 32-week programs were offered to Bristol and Burlington residents. This program focused on building strength and flexibility for those not regularly exercising. 40 people participated.
- ◆ *Nutrition* – Two 4-week programs were offered in Burlington. This program emphasized healthy eating by reducing dietary fat. 33 people participated.
- ◆ *Diabetes Self-Care* – A 7-week program focusing on diabetes education and how to prevent diabetes-related complications benefited 14 people with diabetes. This class included a nutrition component and emphasized testing one's own blood sugar.

Bristol Community Wellness Coalition

The Coalition's mission is to work together with the community to improve the health and well being of the people in the Greater Bristol Area. Chaired by the Director of Health, some members of the Coalition include the Bristol-Burlington Health District, the Greater Bristol Chamber of Commerce, the United Way, and Bristol Hospital. This Coalition also serves as the Local Prevention Council (LPC) for Bristol.

Below are some of our recent projects and initiatives:

- ◆ Underage Drinking Conference
- ◆ Voice of Bristol Youth Report
- ◆ Bicycle Helmet Project
- ◆ Eat Healthy, Eat Smart Dining Brochure
- ◆ Smoking Cessation Program in Middle School
- ◆ Healthy Homes Project - School Readiness
- ◆ Smoke-Free Dining Brochure

Upcoming Programs

- ◆ This Fall an adult Smoking Cessation program with a therapeutic component will be offered.
- ◆ The disease prevention and control programs focusing on lifestyle will be repeated in the Fall.

Bristol-Burlington Health District

20th Anniversary



Annual Report 1998-1999

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