

Selected Reportable Diseases for Calendar Year 2004 by Town

	Ashford	Bolton	Coventry	Mansfield	Tolland	Willington	District Totals
Campylobacter	1	2	4	0	2	0	9
Chlamydia	7	2	7	14	8	10	48
Cryptosporidium	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Cyclospora	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
E. Coli 0157	0	0	0	1	0	0	1
Giardia	0	2	2	0	4	0	8
Gonorrhea	0	2	3	2	2	1	10
Group A Streptococcus	0	0	0	2	1	0	3
Group B Streptococcus	1	0	0	1	1	0	3
Haemophilus Influenzae	0	1	0	0	0	0	1
Hepatitis A	0	0	0	1	1	0	2
Hepatitis B	0	0	1	1	1	2	7
Hepatitis C	2	2	4	5	2	4	19
Lead-Elevated Blood Lead Levels in children up to age 6 for 2003 (10-19 ug/dl)	0	0	0	1	0	0	1
Lead-Elevated Blood Lead Levels in children up to age 6 for 2003 (> 20 ug/dl)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Listeria	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Lyme Disease*	8	10	19	26	19	7	89
Measles	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Methicillin Resistant Staphylococcus Aureus	0	0	0	3	0	1	4
Mumps	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Neisseria Meningitidis	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Pertussis	2	1	1	0	3	0	7
Rubella	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Salmonella	0	0	2	0	1	1	4
Shigella	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Streptococcus Pneumoniae	1	0	0	1	1	1	4
Syphilis	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Tuberculosis Cases (Active)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Vibrio	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
West Nile Virus	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Yersinia	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

*Data is for 2003, as Lyme Diseases is no longer reportable



4 South Eagleville Road
Mansfield CT, 06268



Eastern Highlands Health District

2004-2005 ANNUAL REPORT



Serving the towns of Andover, Ashford, Bolton, Chaplin, Columbia,
Coventry, Mansfield, Scotland, Tolland and Willington

Population: 77,792 • Service Area: Approximately 208 Square Miles

Introduction to Health Districts

Health districts are much like full-time municipal health departments in the services they provide. Through a binding relationship with member towns provided for in state statutes, they provide services to a group of towns that may not have a full-time local health department without district membership. Joining a health district is an attractive option for towns because they are provided with access to full-time public health services with minimal costs. District membership increases towns' ability to benefit from grant-funded public health programs. Towns that are members of health districts provide annual per capita contributions to support the health district.

Health districts are governmental entities which carry out critical public health functions in the areas of infectious disease control; they have legal authority to levy fines and penalties for public health code violations; they grant and rescind license permits (such as for food services establishments or septic systems); and they levy funding to carry out the full array of public health activities to improve the health of people in their jurisdictions.

How EHHD Has Grown

In June of 1997, the Towns of Bolton, Coventry and Mansfield joined to form the Eastern Highlands Health District. This decision was made as town leaders and residents realized that pooling resources can increase the scope and quality of public health services by providing a full-time public health staff while reducing expenses. In 2000, the Town of Tolland joined the District, the Town of Willington followed in 2001 and the Town of Ashford joined in 2004. At the end of Fiscal Year 2004/2005, 4 additional towns joined: Andover, Chaplin, Columbia and Scotland. Each of these 10 towns now has the benefits of full-time public health services, ensuring that the core functions of public health are met for these communities.

The Eastern Highlands Health District welcomes these new towns!

Top 10 Benefits Your Community Receives as a Member of a Public Health District:

1. A professionally staffed department with fully trained and certified personnel.
2. Improved availability of services; seven days a week, 24 hours a day for emergencies.
3. Less fragmentation of services.
4. Uniform enforcement of state laws and regulations, codes, and ordinances.
5. A regional approach to public health problems that cross town lines.
6. Pooling of manpower for backup services in times of need.
7. The capability to address a wider scope of public health problems and issues than your community could on its own.
8. Reduction of waste and maximized effectiveness through problem identification, priority setting, improved coordination, and more efficient use of resources.
9. Eligibility for extensive state and federal funding, bringing dollars to the local level that might not otherwise be possible.
10. An opportunity for your town to network with other local health departments and state agencies.

Public Health's 10 Core Functions:

1. **Monitor** health status to identify community health problems.
2. **Diagnose** and **investigate** health problems and health hazards in the community.
3. **Inform, educate, and empower** people about health issues.
4. **Mobilize** community partnerships to identify and solve health problems.
5. **Develop** policies and plans that support individual and community health efforts.
6. **Enforce** laws and regulations that protect health and ensure safety.
7. **Link** people to needed personal health services and assure the provision of health care when otherwise unavailable.
8. **Assure** a competent public and personal health care workforce.
9. **Evaluate** effectiveness, accessibility and quality of personal and population-based health services.
10. **Research** for new insights and innovative solutions to public health problems.

EHHD'S PROGRAMS AND SERVICES

Eastern Highlands Health District works diligently to comply with all State of Connecticut mandates for district health departments. We provide the community with a range of programs and services to ensure that environmental, personal and community health is protected.

ENVIRONMENTAL PROGRAMS

Water Quality – EHHD approves private well sites and monitors public bathing water to assure that our drinking and bathing water quality is free of harmful bacteria, chemicals and pollutants.



Subsurface Sewage Disposal – EHHD's sanitarians conduct soil-testing, review septic plans and issue permits to construct according to technical standards.

Food Protection – All food service establishments are inspected frequently and permitted annually.



Campground/Daycare/Youth Camp Food Service Inspection – EHHD conducts annual campground inspections, bi-annual daycare inspections, and assists the State of CT with youth camp kitchen inspections.

Complaint Investigation – EHHD staff investigate all complaints received ranging from food protection to housing. Complaints violating the Public Health Code and CT General Statutes are subject to enforcement procedures.

Communicable Diseases – EHHD conducts communicable disease surveillance to prevent outbreaks. Examples of communicable diseases include, but are not limited to, West Nile Virus, Rabies, and food borne illness. During the flu season, we procured and distributed 1,400 vaccine doses district-wide. Statistics contained in this report represent the total number of reported disease cases that have significant public health importance. These diseases are generally acknowledged to be underreported.

West Nile Virus Surveillance – EHHD participates in the State Mosquito Management Program through distribution of information to the community and submission of dead birds for testing.

EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS

Public Health Emergency Preparedness Planning – In 2003/04, EHHD completed its state-mandated Emergency Response Plan for its jurisdiction. Through the development of this plan EHHD engaged multiple partners district-wide to ensure that in the event of a large-scale emergency resources would be coordinated effectively.

Smallpox Plan – EHHD developed a district-wide Emergency Mass Vaccination Plan to prepare for a potential smallpox outbreak and conducted a preparedness exercise to test the components of the

plan. A location for a mass vaccination clinic was secured and teams of responders, medical personnel and volunteers have been identified to assist in the event of an emergency.

Anthrax Plan – EHHD collaborated with many other local Health Departments and community partners to develop an Anthrax exposure treatment plan. This plan was facilitated through a drill, which involved over 100 health and emergency professionals, as well community volunteers. The goal of the drill was to test the proposed antibiotic dispensing plan to ensure that the objective of providing 500 individuals antibiotics within a 48-hour period was met. The drill met its objective and provided the health and emergency professionals involved with a wealth of knowledge regarding the implementation of a mass antibiotic dispensing plan.



HEALTH PROMOTION

In 2002/2003 EHHD received a 3 year Cardiovascular Health for Environmental and Policy Change grant from the State Department of Public Health, which was sponsored by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. This grant enabled the District to start several initiatives to reduce cardiovascular disease.

Healthy Hearts Restaurant Certification Program – This program is offered to all class 3 & 4 restaurants (including school cafeterias). Establishments are certified if they agree that they are currently participating in 5 or more, out of 26, heart healthy practices or if they agree to make changes to do so. Restaurants receive a certificate for display signed by the Health Director; stickers for use on menus and free promotion through the Health District's media contacts and publications. Currently 29 restaurants and 7 schools are certified.

Bolton School Health Index – Bolton Schools Participated in the CDC's School Health Index. The data obtained from the index is being used by school officials to advocate for a school health educator for the 2005-2006 school year.

Coventry School Nutrition/Wellness Group – The committee's focus is improving nutrition and increasing physical activity for students in Coventry. The group prompted Superintendent of Schools to initiate "W.I.S.H." – Walking In Schools for Health, a program to promote walking for health for the entire community, using indoor "trails" in Coventry Schools for use in inclement weather. The group continues to

promote collaboration on health issues among schools, town agencies, groups and individual residents.

Coventry's Walking Buddies – This is a "match-making" program for Coventry residents who wish to walk with a partner for safety or motivation. "Buddies" receive a list of all registered members that lists their schedules, geographic location in town, desire to walk with a pet or children and fitness level so they can contact those who are compatible with themselves and arrange a walking date.

Mansfield Middle School-After School Nutrition Class-"Food and Friends" – In partnership with Mansfield Youth Service Bureau, EHHD supplies an extracurricular program for Middle School students, which meets after school once per week for 7 weeks. The focus of the program is making healthy snacks students can prepare themselves or with moderate supervision. Educational topics include the importance of eating fruits and vegetables, making healthy substitutes for favorite foods and walking as a lifetime activity to maintain fitness.

UConn's PAW PALS at Tolland's Parker Elementary 3rd and 4th grade school – The CVH Program prompted the initiation of a partnership between UCONN's Department of Kinesiology and Birch Grove School. This partnership created this before school exercise program for students who are identified as overweight or obese. The program also invites average weight students to prevent stigmatization.

Tolland's School Wellness Committee – The School Health Index prompted the initiation of this committee, which focuses on healthy school environment, staff health, staff as healthy role models, and an increase in physical activity and increasing students' fruit and vegetable consumption. This group includes staff, administration and parents from 2 of Tolland's Grammar Schools. As a result of interest from the middle and high school administration and staff, the group plans to become a district-wide coalition for the 2005-2006 school year.

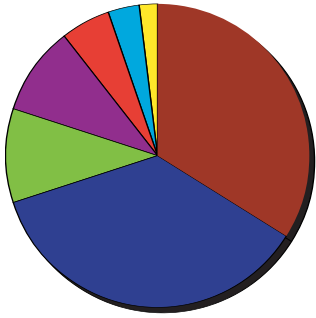
Sun Safety Skin Cancer Prevention Program

This program, which is supported by a Preventative Health Block Grant administered by the State Department of Public Health, provides free training sessions on how to prevent skin cancer from over exposure to ultraviolet rays. It is offered to daycare providers who receive certificates of participation upon completion of the program. The program is also available to all ages of students, community groups, employees and other interested individuals within the District.



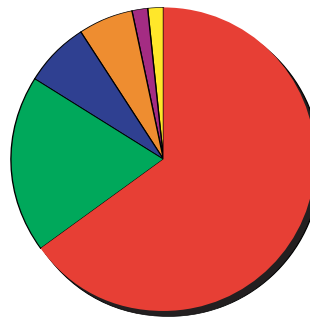
EHHD Budget Fiscal Year 2004/2005

EHHD receives funds from a variety of sources including member town contributions, State and Federal grants, and service fees. Towns are charged on a per-capita basis, which supports local public health services.



EHHD Operating Revenues

Grants	\$277,346
Member Town Contributions	\$260,254
Other Services	\$77,450
Soil Testing	\$73,540
Septic Permits	\$40,575
Food Service	\$24,573
Well Permits	\$14,120



EHHD Operating Expenditures

Payroll & Benefits	\$414,983
Professional & Technical Svcs	\$121,294
Medical Insurance	\$44,422
Supplies & Services	\$37,483
Equipment - Other	\$10,658
Liability Insurance	\$9,048

2004-2005 ACTIVITY TOTALS

	Ashford	Bolton	Coventry	Mansfield	Tolland	Willington	District Totals
ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH ACTIVITIES							
Office Service							
Consultations	990	468	1,582	3,934	1,332	625	8,931
Correspondence sent	264	182	289	1,613	167	57	2,572
Complaints							
Food protection	0	0	2	7	0	0	9
Housing	5	0	3	10	2	7	27
Refuse/garbage	0	0	4	3	0	0	7
Rodents/insects	0	1	0	2	0	1	4
Water quality	0	1	1	3	0	4	9
Air quality	0	0	0	2	0	0	2
Sewage disposal	3	2	6	4	1	3	19
Other	1	2	5	2	1	3	14
Inspection							
Group Homes	0	0	0	0	0	3	3
Day Care	1	4	4	7	6	1	23
Camps	1	0	0	0	0	2	3
Mobile Homes	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Motels, rooming homes	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Schools	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Mortgage, FHA, VA	0	1	0	0	0	1	2
Public pools/bathing areas	0	0	10	0	0	0	10
Other	0	4	6	1	0	0	11
On-site Sewage Disposal							
Site inspection -- all site visits	304	203	410	367	573	137	1,994
Deep hole tests -- number of holes	253	387	634	511	852	358	2,995
Percolation tests -- number of holes	44	39	39	86	30	16	254
Permits issued, new	28	10	45	63	56	20	222
Permits issued, repair	4	7	38	29	66	10	154
Site plans reviewed	38	18	97	148	113	27	441
B100a Reviews	47	66	197	106	285	52	753
Wells							
Well sites inspected	39	6	57	62	62	26	252
Well permits issued	24	16	51	60	60	26	237
Laboratory Activities (samples taken)							
Potable water	6	17	112	43	18	9	205
Surface water	6	42	143	28	36	43	298
Ground water	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Rabies	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Lead	10	3	0	8	0	0	21
Other (birds, etc)	0	5	3	8	2	1	19
Food Protection							
Inspections	15	19	52	189	66	28	369
Reinspections	4	2	5	47	20	19	97
Temporary Licenses Issued	3	21	24	19	3	14	84
Plan Reviews	1	2	3	7	6	0	19
Site Construction Inspections	2	3	6	13	4	0	28
Lead Activities							
Housing inspection	4	0	1	2	0	0	7
Abate plan reviewed	0	2	0	2	0	0	4
Miscellaneous Activities							
Planning and Zoning referrals	0	2	43	22	27	14	108
Subdivision reviewed (per lot)	56	31	82	36	194	89	488
Meetings	42	3	60	173	65	6	349
Conferences / Seminars	0	3	11	20	6	0	40