

**HOUSATONIC VALLEY  
HEALTH DISTRICT**

**MONTHLY REPORT**

**APRIL 14 - MAY 10, 2022**



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# UPDATE FROM LISA MORRISSEY, DIRECTOR OF HEALTH

Dear Community,

May is Mental Health Month and we are celebrating this through hosting a “Coping during times of COVID-19” on May 12th at 3:00 pm on Google Meet. May is also Blood Pressure Awareness Month of which we are celebrating by hosting weekly blood pressure clinics on Tuesdays from 3:00 - 5:00pm in Southbury and Wednesdays from 3:00 - 5:00 pm in New Milford.

The state of Connecticut has changed how they are reporting COVID-19 statistics. The state has also recently tweaked how it reports COVID-19 tests, no longer sharing negative results from rapid tests, which previously accounted for about 10 percent of the state’s total. During the week of May 1, 2022, the CDC Community Tracker showed that 4 counties were categorized as medium, while one county was categorized as high. Individuals should get tested if they are exposed or experiencing COVID-19 symptoms and get vaccinated if they have not done so already.

Moderna has submitted a request for Emergency Use Authorization (EUA) for its COVID-19 vaccine for children under 6 years of age. Pfizer is expected to submit a request for EUA for children under 5 years of age soon. The Food & Drug Administration (FDA) has tentatively scheduled some meeting dates to discuss the EUA submission(s). Currently FDA anticipates EUA and Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices recommendation with distribution of any new vaccine products sometime in June 2022.

The following pages contain reports from each team, which include ongoing activities.



**LISA MICHELLE MORRISSEY, MPH**  
**DIRECTOR OF HEALTH**



# COMMUNITY HEALTH REPORT

The Community Health Division is continually building relationships with community members to serve as an educational resource for residents, businesses, schools, and other stakeholders.

During this reporting period, the Community Health Division completed the following:

- Implemented educational programs in the senior centers (i.e. Coping During Times of COVID-19, Lyme Disease Prevention).
- Offer COVID-19 vaccines twice weekly (Tuesday & Wednesdays from 3 -5), averaging 20-30 recipients per week.
- Planned and implemented weekly blood pressure screenings at our Southbury and New Milford clinic locations in celebration of National Blood Pressure Awareness month in May.
- On April 6th, we had our first virtual Mindfulness Meditation session where 15 people people attended and will continue to offer these sessions monthly.



**Heidi Bettcher, RN, BSN**  
Community Health Nursing Supervisor



# COMMUNITY HEALTH REPORT

## COVID-19 Clinics

HVHD held weekly COVID-19 clinics at our New Milford and Southbury locations.

**14**

**Total Number of COVID-19 Vaccine Clinics**

from 4/14 - 5/10

**14**

**Total Number of COVID-19 Testing Clinics**

from 4/14 - 5/10

## BLOOD PRESSURE CLINICS

HVHD conducted blood pressure clinics throughout all 5 towns.

**18**

**Total Number of Blood Pressure Clinics**

from 4/14 - 5/10

## COMMUNITY HEALTH PROGRAMS

HVHD conducted community health programs at senior centers and virutally.

**2**

**Total Number of Community Health Programs**

from 4/14 - 5/10



# Public Health Preparedness and Medical Reserve Corp (MRC) Report:

The Public Health Emergency Preparedness Division aims to build community relationships and prepare our communities to deal with emergency situations. The Division serves as an educational resource for personal and community preparedness through community building and volunteer recruitment.

During this reporting period, the PHEP/MRC Division:

- Held orientation for our volunteers where we were able to get loyalty oaths administered and volunteers informed on any administrative changes.
- Participated in the Woodbury Earth Day hosted by the Pomperaug Rivershed Water Coalition on Saturday April 30th. Volunteers were asked to assist with parking and greeting.
- HVMRC celebrated volunteer appreciation week (4/18-4/22) by giving out certificates and a gift bag of MRC items as a sign of appreciation
- Coordinated volunteers to attend our Global Local Health Exchange program to discuss mental health in times of COVID 19 to create larger outreach programs that could lead to bigger open circle discussions.
- Planned and implemented a Virtual Blood Drive from now until August 1st. Inquired about hosting an in-person blood drive in the fall.
- Worked on updating the PHERP plans to reflect HVHD along with updating any outdated best practices/information.



Megan McClintock, MS  
PHEP/MRC Coordinator



# Environmental Health Report:

The Environmental Health Division provides a multitude of services, which include but are not limited to, land use plan review and inspection, food service establishment plan review and inspection, septic plan review and related inspections and daycare inspections.

The Environmental Health Division focuses on the interrelationships between people and their environment, promotes human health and well-being, and fosters healthy and safe communities. This includes providing services such as:

- Food service establishment plan review and inspection
- Septic plan review and related inspections
- Well water testing for potability (through the CT DPH Laboratory)
- Public swimming pool code compliance and inspection



**Joe Kametz**  
Chief Sanitarian



# New Milford Environmental Health Report

## Septic

3

### Septic Permit

during April 14 - May 10, 2022

4

### Septic Plan Review

during April 14 - May 10, 2022

4

### Septic Inspections

during April 14 - May 10, 2022

2

### Permit to Discharge

during April 14 - May 10, 2022

## Building

19

### Building Additions

during April 14 - May 10, 2022

5

### Well Permits

during April 14 - May 10, 2022

4

### Underground Propane Tank Reviews

during April 14 - May 10, 2022

## Soil

10

### Soil Tests

during April 14 - May 10, 2022

## File Request

65

### Property File Requests

during April 14 - May 10, 2022





# Oxford

## Environmental Health Report

### Septic

1

#### Septic Permit

during April 14 - May 10, 2022

4

#### Septic Plan Review

during April 14 - May 10, 2022

2

#### Permit to Discharge

during April 14 - May 10, 2022

0

#### Permit to Construct

during April 14 - May 10, 2022

2

#### Septic Inspections

during April 14 - May 10, 2022

### Building

6

#### Building Additions

during April 14 - May 10, 2022

0

#### Well Permits

during April 14 - May 10, 2022

### Soil

5

#### Soil Tests

during April 14 - May 10, 2022

### Daycare

0

#### Daycare License

during April 14 - May 10, 2022

### File Requests

34

#### Property File Requests

during April 14 - May 10, 2022

### Complaints

0

#### Health Code Violation Complaints

during April 14 - May 10, 2022



# Southbury Environmental Health Report

## Septic

5

### Septic Permit

during April 14 - May 10, 2022

2

### Septic Plan Review

during April 14 - May 10, 2022

2

### Permit to Discharge

during April 14 - May 10, 2022

0

### Permit to Construct

during April 14 - May 10, 2022

2

### Septic Inspections

during April 14 - May 10, 2022

## Building

8

### Building Additions

during April 14 - May 10, 2022

4

### Well Permits

during April 14 - May 10, 2022

## Soil

5

### Soil Tests

during April 14 - May 10, 2022

## Daycare

0

### Daycare License

during April 14 - May 10, 2022

## File Request

88

### Property File Requests

during April 14 - May 10, 2022

## Complaints

0

### Health Code Violation Complaints

during April 14 - May 10, 2022



# Washington Environmental Health Report

## Septic

0

### Septic Permit

during April 14 - May 10, 2022

3

### Septic Plan Review

during April 14 - May 10, 2022

1

### Permit to Discharge

during April 14 - May 10, 2022

0

### Permit to Construct

during April 14 - May 10, 2022

2

### Septic Inspections

during April 14 - May 10, 2022

## Building

25

### Building Additions

during April 14 - May 10, 2022

0

### Well Permits

during April 14 - May 10, 2022

## Soil

6

### Soil Tests

during April 14 - May 10, 2022

## Daycare

0

### Daycare License

during April 14 - May 10, 2022

## File Request

38

### Property File Requests

during April 14 - May 10, 2022

## Complaints

0

### Health Code Violation Complaints

during April 14 - May 10, 2022



# Woodbury Environmental Health Report

## Septic

5

### Septic Permit

during April 14 - May 10, 2022

7

### Septic Plan Review

during April 14 - May 10, 2022

0

### Permit to Discharge

during April 14 - May 10, 2022

0

### Permit to Construct

during April 14 - May 10, 2022

5

### Septic Inspections

during April 14 - May 10, 2022

## Building

9

### Building Additions

during April 14 - May 10, 2022

1

### Well Permits

during April 14 - May 10, 2022

## Soil

8

### Soil Tests

during April 14 - May 10, 2022

## Daycare

0

### Daycare License

during March 17 - April 14, 2022

## File Request

31

### Property File Requests

during April 14 - May 10, 2022

## Complaints

0

### Health Code Violation Complaints

during April 14 - May 10, 2022



# Administrative Division:

The Administrative Division is responsible for planning and executing a comprehensive range of administrative services which support office operations. These services encompass the areas of human resource management, financial management, systems and information management, facilities management and support services.

During this reporting period, the Office Manager and Operations Manager completed the following tasks:

- Processed the renewal letters for 2022 and applications for Food Establishments, Salons, Daycares and Pools licensed through the District.
- Finalized a new banking account for the district with Bank of America.
- Assisted with the finalization of new Environmental health applications and fees.
- Working to create databases for the Environmental Health team.



**Jennifer Luis**  
Office Manager



**Marvalee Washington-Allen, MS**  
Public Health Operations Manager



# Grants Updates:

Grant Agency	Program Supported	Award Amount	Award Dates	Project Status
National Assoc of County & City Health Officials (NACCHO)	Professional Development: MRC Unit Leader travel scholarship to Preparedness Summit	\$1,800	April 4, 2022 - April 7, 2022	Completed
Assistant Secretary of Preparedness & Response (ASPR)	Medical Reserve Corps (Respond, Innovate, Sustain & Equip 'RISE')	\$75,000	May 1, 2022 - December, 2022	Awarded; contract pending
ASPR (administered through NACCHO)	Community Health; Vaccination Clinics; MRC (Volunteer Immunization Partnership for Emergency Response 'VIPER') Initiative	\$10,000	March 1, 2022 - September, 2022	Awarded
CT Dept. of Public Health (DPH)	SFY 2022 Per Capita Funding	\$188,658.60	July 1, 2022 - June 30, 2022	Awarded
Robert Wood Johnson Foundation & NACCHO	Global Local Health Exchange (mental health workshops) for HVHD constituents	\$20,000	February, 2021 - July, 2022	Awarded
CT DPH	Public Health Emergency Preparedness (PHEP)	\$43,472	July 1, 2021 - June 30, 2022	Awarded



## Grants Updates (Cont.):

Grant Agency	Program Supported	Award Amount	Award Dates	Project Status
CT DPH	Housatonic Valley Medical Reserve Corps (HVMRC)	\$16,332	July 1, 2021 - June 30, 2022	Awarded
CT DPH	Epidemiology & Laboratory Capacity Grant	\$286,463	March 2, 2022 - February 29, 2024	Awarded; contract pending



## Communications Division:

The Communications Division handles internal and external communications. This includes communicating with stakeholders, the media, and staff. This division works closely with other departments to ensure it adequately promotes services, accomplishments, and conveys accurate information to the community. The Communications Division is responsible for enhancing, developing, and promoting the HVHD brand across multiple platforms; accomplished through web programming, multimedia development, public relations, media outreach, social media management, graphic design, and print production.

During this reporting period, the Communications Division completed:

- Implemented a 30, 60, 90 day communication strategy.
- Created a metric system for social media engagements and website statistics.
- Worked closely with the Community Health Team to plan and implement virtual programs for the coming months.
- Created various video tutorials for software and reports which were distributed to the staff.
- Researched various project management software.
- Ongoing updates to the website's design and content.



**Ruth Quattro**  
Public Health Communications Coordinator





# Communications Statistics:



## Press Releases

2

Press Releases were drafted and distributed to 8 media outlets

## Reports

4

COVID-19 reports were distributed to community partners and stakeholders



## Social Media



**Facebook Page Likes: 20**



**Instagram Followers: 52**



**Twitter Followers: 10**



**LinkedIn Followers: 91**



# Communications Statistics:



## Google Business Profile

6

Phone Calls

35

People Asked for Directions

62

Website Visits

303

Profile Visits

149

Web Searches