

**HOUSATONIC VALLEY  
HEALTH DISTRICT**

**MONTHLY REPORT**

**MAY 12 - JUNE 9, 2022**



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# UPDATE FROM LISA MORRISSEY, DIRECTOR OF HEALTH

Dear Community,

As we approach the end of the school year, we would like to take a moment to recognize all graduates within all our towns! It is also important to wear sunscreen and stay hydrated when outside this summer.

Housatonic Valley Health District celebrated Mental Health Month by hosting a Mindfulness Meditation session and “Coping during Times of COVID-19” programs at our local senior centers as well as hosted a virtual session.

The Environmental Health division started their weekly public beach water testing and the result dashboard will be up live soon. The Community Health division held weekly COVID-19 vaccination and Rapid PCR testing clinics at both our New Milford and Southbury clinic locations. The Housatonic MRC division launched a Virtual Blood Drive, which will continue through the end of August.

On Thursday, May 19th, the Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices’ (ACIP), CDC is expanding eligibility of COVID-19 vaccine booster doses to everyone 5 years of age and older. CDC now recommends that children ages 5 through 11 years should receive a booster shot 5 months after their initial Pfizer-BioNTech vaccination series.

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:

- Clinics have seen an increase in COVID-19 testing due to traveling requirements and blood pressure screenings are also becoming more utilized by the community.
- HVHD community health division has raised more awareness in the community by being invited to participate in Southbury's Senior Alliance, New Milford's TRIAD for Senior Safety and many health screenings/ health fairs across our 5 towns.
- The Community Health Division has been working on hiring an APRN and building the foundation to implement sports physicals starting July 2022 for our community.
- The community health educational programs have been a success so far in the local Senior Centers and we are looking to expand other locations that we can offer these programs. We were able to offer a virtual session on Coping During Times of the Pandemic on May 12 which was a great success.
- Our team is also working on the influenza schedule for next year and have already added 2 new locations.



**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.

**75**

**Total Number of COVID-19 Vaccine**

from 5/12 - 6/9

**40**

**Total Number of COVID-19 Tests**

from 5/12 - 6/9

## BLOOD PRESSURE CLINICS

HVHD conducted blood pressure clinics throughout all 5 towns.

**14**

**Total Number of Blood Pressure Screenings**

from 5/12 - 6/9

## COMMUNITY HEALTH PROGRAMS

HVHD conducted community health programs at senior centers and virutally.

**5**

**Total Number of Community Health Programs**

from 5/12 - 6/9



# 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:

- Secured an in-person blood drive date (8/24 from 1-6 pm at New Milford VFW) and are actively working to secure other blood drive dates for other District towns
- Continuing to publicize our virtual blood drive that is running now through August 1st
- Created flyer for HVMRC to use for informational material at fairs. Also created interest forms to capture prospective member information
- Members of our community health team attended the New Milford High School Health Fair on 5/24 and publicized HVMRC
- Submitted POD Drill information for Sarah Noble High School to meet PHEP deliverable
- Submitted our local PHERP and MCM action plans to meet deliverables
- Activated a call-down drill for our volunteers that is modeled after our statewide quarterly drill. 42 Volunteers responded
- Attended the statewide EPPI (emergency preparedness and planning initiative) through the town of Southbury EOC. This year's tabletop exercise used a Category 3 hurricane.



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

4

### Septic Permit

during May 12 - June 9, 2022

9

### Septic Plan Review

during May 12 - June 9, 2022

1

### Permit to Discharge

during May 12 - June 9, 2022

0

### Permit to Construct

during May 12 - June 9, 2022

1

### Septic Inspections

during May 12 - June 9, 2022

## Building

21

### Building Additions

during May 12 - June 9, 2022

6

### Well Permits

during May 12 - June 9, 2022

3

### Underground Propane Tank Reviews

during May 12 - June 9, 2022

0

### Generator Reviews

during May 12 - June 9, 2022

## Soil

9

### Soil Tests

during May 12 - June 9, 2022

## Daycare

0

### Daycare License

during May 12 - June 9, 2022

## File Request

108

### Property File Requests

during May 12 - June 9, 2022

## Complaints

0

### Health Code

### Violation Complaints

during May 12 - June 9, 2022





# Oxford

## Environmental Health Report

### Septic

4

#### Septic Permit

during May 12 - June 9, 2022

0

#### Septic Plan Review

during May 12 - June 9, 2022

2

#### Permit to Discharge

during May 12 - June 9, 2022

0

#### Permit to Construct

during May 12 - June 9, 2022

5

#### Septic Inspections

during May 12 - June 9, 2022

### Building

11

#### Building Additions

during May 12 - June 9, 2022

1

#### Well Permits

during May 12 - June 9, 2022

0

#### Underground Propane Tank Reviews

during May 12 - June 9, 2022

0

#### Generator Reviews

during May 12 - June 9, 2022

### Soil

5

#### Soil Tests

during May 12 - June 9, 2022

### Daycare

0

#### Daycare License

during May 12 - June 9, 2022

### File Requests

33

#### Property File Requests

during May 12 - June 9, 2022

### Complaints

0

#### Health Code Violation Complaints

during May 12 - June 9, 2022



# Southbury Environmental Health Report

## Septic

2

### Septic Permit

during May 12 - June 9, 2022

0

### Septic Plan Review

during May 12 - June 9, 2022

2

### Permit to Discharge

during May 12 - June 9, 2022

0

### Permit to Construct

during May 12 - June 9, 2022

8

### Septic Inspections

during May 12 - June 9, 2022

## Building

8

### Building Additions

during May 12 - June 9, 2022

3

### Well Permits

during May 12 - June 9, 2022

4

### Underground Propane Tank Reviews

during May 12 - June 9, 2022

4

### Generator Reviews

during May 12 - June 9, 2022

## Soil

6

### Soil Tests

during May 12 - June 9, 2022

## Daycare

0

### Daycare License

during May 12 - June 9, 2022

## File Request

70

### Property File Requests

during May 12 - June 9, 2022

## Complaints

0

### Health Code Violation Complaints

during May 12 - June 9, 2022



# Washington Environmental Health Report

## Septic

4

### Septic Permit

during May 12 - June 9, 2022

8

### Septic Plan Review

during May 12 - June 9, 2022

1

### Permit to Discharge

during May 12 - June 9, 2022

0

### Permit to Construct

during May 12 - June 9, 2022

0

### Septic Inspections

during May 12 - June 9, 2022

## Building

5

### Building Additions

during May 12 - June 9, 2022

2

### Well Permits

during May 12 - June 9, 2022

4

### Underground Propane Tank Reviews

during May 12 - June 9, 2022

4

### Generator Reviews

during May 12 - June 9, 2022

## Soil

0

### Soil Tests

during May 12 - June 9, 2022

## Daycare

0

### Daycare License

during May 12 - June 9, 2022

## File Request

44

### Property File Requests

during May 12 - June 9, 2022

## Complaints

0

### Health Code Violation Complaints

during May 12 - June 9, 2022



# Woodbury Environmental Health Report

## Septic

1

### Septic Permit

during May 12 - June 9, 2022

0

### Septic Plan Review

during May 12 - June 9, 2022

5

### Permit to Discharge

during May 12 - June 9, 2022

0

### Permit to Construct

during May 12 - June 9, 2022

4

### Septic Inspections

during May 12 - June 9, 2022

## Building

12

### Building Additions

during May 12 - June 9, 2022

1

### Well Permits

during May 12 - June 9, 2022

4

### Underground Propane Tank Reviews

during May 12 - June 9, 2022

4

### Generator Reviews

during May 12 - June 9, 2022

## Soil

2

### Soil Tests

during May 12 - June 9, 2022

## Daycare

0

### Daycare License

during May 12 - June 9, 2022

## File Request

36

### Property File Requests

during May 12 - June 9, 2022

## Complaints

0

### Health Code Violation Complaints

during May 12 - June 9, 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
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:

- Coordinated HVHD informational flyers and brochures for distribution at community events.
- Created web-based forms for applications to be posted on the website.
- Implemented a social media and communication metric system to track progress of social media posts.
- Reformatted the Annual Report template and began inputting information for distribution in July.
- Worked with the Community Health Division to compose Sports Physicals and Flu social media posts, flyers, and print advertisements.
- Began creating a Public Beach Water Quality dashboard to relay results to the public.



**Ruth Quattro, MPH**  
Public Health Communications Coordinator



# Communications Statistics:



## Press Releases

1

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: 25



Instagram Followers: 60



Twitter Followers: 10



LinkedIn Followers: 94





# Communications Statistics:



## Google Business Profile

9

Phone Calls

36

People Asked for Directions

70

Website Visits

271

Profile Visits

164

Web Searches