



# Northeast District Department of Health



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**Public Health**  
Prevent. Promote. Protect.

## Annual Report Fiscal Year 2023 NDDH Celebrates 50 Years of Providing Public Health Services to Northeast CT



*(NDDH staff and CT State Senator Mae Flexer with an official citation from the CT General Assembly in recognition of the agency's 50 years of preventing illness, promoting wellness, and protecting public health.)*

Over the past fiscal year, NDDH—your local health department—remained busy delivering and improving services and programs. Despite being understaffed, we were able to complete 100% of campgrounds, daycare, hair salons/barbershops, hotel/motels, medical services, nail salons, and swimming pool inspections. Our food inspection completion rate increased from 13% in FY 2022 to 19% in 2023. This rate is too low; we simply did not have staff that were approved by the State Department of Public Health (DPH) to do the inspections. We brought light to this issue by conducting and sharing research on the nature, extent, and impact of the shortage and presented it to DPH through the CT Association of Directors of Health. The report included suggestions to address the shortage and one was voted into law this year. We are grateful to Chatham, Eastern Highlands, Ledge Light, and Uncas health districts for helping us prepare new staff for the certification from CT DPH that is required before they can conduct restaurant inspections.

The environmental health team and public health nurse conduct investigations of public health nuisances and infectious diseases. They worked collaboratively with the community health team to prevent lead poisoning. We also worked in partnership with healthcare, social services, elected officials, and others. This year we completed a community health needs assessment. We hosted school nurses from member towns to discuss the vaping epidemic and to provide QPR training—a suicide prevention program with the message that asking **Q**uestions, **P**ersuading people to get help, and **R**eferring people to services can save lives. We continued to offer COVID vaccinations, flu shots, health screening, and health promotion messages at a variety of events and fairs.

On June 30, 2023, we celebrated our 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary by inviting board members, town and school officials, legislators, area agencies, and residents to an open house reception to meet the small but dedicated staff who are working so hard to promote health and well-being in northeast CT. We are proud of the work we do to overcome obstacles and deliver public health services to you!



**NORTHEAST DISTRICT DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH**  
**Public Health Activities for the Town of Putnam, July 1, 2022 – June 30, 2023**



<b>Environmental Services</b>	
<b>Subsurface Sewage Disposal</b>	
As-Built	9
B100	13
Plan Review, Commercial	1
Plan Review, New	8
Plan Review, Repair	7
Plan Review, Revised	2
Plan Review, Subdivision	2
Permit to Construct, Commercial	0
Permit to Construct, New	6
Permit to Construct, Repair	7
Property Document Search	36
Soil Test, Additional	5
Soil Test, New	5
Soil Test, Repair	10
Tank or Sewer Line	3
Water Treatment Permit	0
<b>Potable Water</b>	
Well Permit	6
<b>Food Service Sanitation</b>	
Restaurant Inspection – 39%	51/199
Restaurant Re-inspection – 100%	4/4
Restaurant Plan Review	1
Temporary Food Event – 55%	6/11
<b>Health Inspections</b>	
Campground – n/a	0/0
Daycare – 100%	1/1
Group Home – n/a	0/0
Hair Salon – 100%	65/65
Hotel/Motel – 100%	1/1
Medical – n/a	0/0
Nail Salon – 100%	9/9
Pool Inspection – 100%	3/3
<b>Complaints</b>	
Animal or Animal Waste	4
Bed Bugs	0
Food Service	9
Garbage	8
Heat/Water	2
Housing	29
Insects, Vermin (excluding Bed Bugs)	20
Lead Complaint	4
Manure/Flies	3
Mold	22
Odor	13
Outdoor Wood Furnace/Smoke	1
Septic	2
Other / COVID-19 Related	4
<b>Health Services</b>	
Ongoing Lead Case Management	17
Rabies Prevention	0
Number of Animals Tested Positive for Rabies	0
<b>Total Environmental Services</b>	<b>399</b>

<b>Reportable Communicable Disease (Calendar Year 2022)</b>	
Babesiosis	0
Giardiasis	0
Chlamydia	n/a
Gonorrhea	n/a
Group B Streptococcus	1
Hepatitis B	0
Hepatitis C	3
Influenza	138
Legionellosis	1
Listeriosis	0
Lyme Disease	0
Rotavirus	0
Salmonellosis	0
Streptococcus pneumoniae	0
<b>Total Reportable Communicable Disease</b>	<b>143</b>
<b>NDDH Oral Health Screening &amp; Education Program</b>	
Total Seen: Putnam did not participate	126
• Number with Caries	9
• Number with Other Dental Care Needs	8
<b>NDDH District-Wide Services</b>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Emergency Planning, Preparedness and Response</li> <li>• Community Health Education covering a broad range of topics to prevent illness, promote wellness and protect health</li> <li>• Radon Awareness and Test Kits-for free home testing for radon, a leading cause of lung cancer</li> <li>• Flu Immunizations</li> </ul>	
<b>Grants (Federal, State &amp; Private Funds)</b>	
<p><b>Grants</b>  <b>CT Department of Public Health (CT DPH) Per-Capita Allocation</b> for support of municipal and district departments of health</p> <p><b>CT DPH and US Centers for Disease Control &amp; Prevention (CDC)</b></p> <p><b>Chronic Disease Prevention (BLOCK)</b> using environmental and policy strategies increase opportunities for physical activity</p> <p><b>CT DPH/CDC (PHEP)</b> for Public Health Emergency Preparedness efforts</p> <p><b>CT DPH/CDC – Epidemiology and Laboratory Capacity 2 (ELC2)</b> for detection, response, surveillance, and prevention of COVID-19</p> <p><b>United Way of Central and Northeastern Connecticut (United Way)</b> to mobilize partners and collaborators to advance health equity related to COVID-19 health disparities among underserved populations at higher risk</p> <p><b>Contracts</b>  <b>American Cancer Society and the CT Cancer Partnership (CT Cancer)</b> for promotion of low dose CT scan (LDCT) lung cancer screening health education campaign.</p>	