

# WHEBD

## DIRECTORY OF SERVICES



West Hartford-Bloomfield Health District

Founded 1995

580 Cottage Grove Road,

Suite 100

Bloomfield, CT 06002

(860) 561-7900

(860) 561-7918 FAX

[www.westhartfordct.gov/health](http://www.westhartfordct.gov/health)

## **What is a Local Health District?**

Health Districts provide core public health functions that lay the groundwork for healthy communities. These functions include protecting the community from diseases and injuries and changing behavior that is harmful. This assures that we have water that is safe to drink, sewage and sanitation systems that protect our communities from diseases, clean restaurants to protect us from foodborne illnesses, a disaster response system, immunizations to prevent epidemics, and a way to track health problems and find solutions.

Our Health District receives its funding from three primary sources: general fund appropriations from West Hartford and Bloomfield, fees for services such as licensing and permit activities, and grants. Grants that we are eligible for include State of Connecticut Per Capita Grant, Preventative Health Block Grant, and categorical grants that become available. We are annually awarded grants from the State of Connecticut based on our capacity to provide essential public health services to the community.

Public health is a wise investment. We are working for you by taking action to prevent disease, promote good health, and protect the environment.

## **WEST HARTFORD Specific Programs**

### **Litter and Community Appearance Standards**

The Health District is responsible for maintaining these standards to preserve the traditions of the community's appearance. Industrial, commercial, and residential areas are evaluated for compliance with the ordinance.

### **Noise Ordinance**

This ordinance is used to protect, preserve, and promote the public health and welfare of the community. Excessive noise can be unhealthful both physically and emotionally. Compliance is monitored within industrial, commercial, and residential areas.

### **Therapeutic Massage Establishments**

Therapeutic massage establishments are regulated by Town Ordinance which reflects the State of Connecticut licensing requirements. Inspections are conducted on a regular basis for compliance with rigid standards of operation to insure that the public health, safety, and general welfare are met. To practice therapeutic massage, therapists must be licensed by the State of Connecticut Department of Public Health.

Pools and spas operated at apartments, condominiums, parks, schools, and clubs are regulated by the State Health Code and regularly inspected by the Health District. Requirements include chemically balanced, safe water, proper signage, restrooms with warm showers, and fencing with proper gates. Individual pool owners can receive answers about pool safety and water quality.

## **Individual Wells and On-Site Sewage Disposal**

The installation of on-site sewage systems (septic systems) and potable water wells are regulated for compliance with the CT Public Health Code. This includes site investigation, design approval, permit issuance, and other necessary inspections (individual wells are evaluated to ensure that an adequate supply of safe drinking water is available to residents.)

## **Rabies Alert and Follow-up**

Rabies is a fatal, viral disease that can be spread by the saliva of infected animals, including bats, to people. It can be prevented by vaccinating pets and people who work with animals. Anyone who suspects that they may have had an exposure should contact their physician and the Health District. All positive tests for rabies are immediately reported to the Director of Health. The Health District staff then ensure that exposed victims receive medical attention. An annual rabies immunization clinic is conducted for cats and dogs.

## **Emergency Preparedness**

The Health District works with other area health departments, first responders, and agencies to respond to and reduce the effects on people's health of natural and man-made emergencies. All households and work places are encouraged to store emergency supplies.

# **Community Health**

## **Health Screenings**

Health Screenings, including blood pressure and diabetes, are held throughout the year. These screenings are generally held several times in both towns. Sites usually include senior centers and town halls. The screenings are usually advertised in local newspapers and senior newsletters.

## **Senior Wellness Clinics**

Clinics are held weekly at different sites in town. The nurses provide monitoring of blood pressure, blood sugar, and weight. Information on diet, medications, health promotion, and general health issues is available.

## **Immunization Clinics**

Low cost, routine immunizations are available to residents age five and up, and to those who work or attend school in our towns. Appointments can be made for the weekly clinics by calling the Health District. Measles, mumps, rubella, diphtheria, pertussis, tetanus, polio, hepatitis B, and varicella immunizations. Tuberculosis skin testing is also available. In the fall, the Health district offers flu and pneumonia immunizations to adult residents 17 years of age and older.

## **Communicable Disease Monitoring/ Outbreak Reporting**

In an effort to minimize the spread of communicable diseases, the Health district Provides disease surveillance and follow-up for all reportable diseases. Statistics are maintained on the incidence of communicable diseases to determine trends and target future programs. The public health nursing staff uses case management to ensure that patients with communicable diseases receive appropriate medical care. The Health District consults with the community, including local convalescent homes and restaurants, to assure that appropriate control measures are in place in the event of a communicable disease or food-borne outbreak.

## **Childhood Lead Reporting and Management**

The Health District provides consultation and education to families who have children with elevated blood levels. In the case of lead poisoning, the Health District works closely with families to develop a lead management or abatement plan.

## **Health Education**

In cooperation with local and state agencies, we offer a variety of health education and promotion classes for both children and adults. Our classes range from Nutrition to Food Safety for Senior Citizens. New classes will continue to be offered according to the diverse needs of our residents.

## **Health Information Resource Center**

The Health District has acquired informational material on a variety of health topics. Providers as well as residents are welcome to utilize these resources.

## **Environmental Health**

### **Food Service Programs**

The Health District inspects all licensed food establishments to ensure compliance with the requirements of the Public Health Code. We seek to reduce the public risk of foodborne illness by providing reasonable protection from contaminated food and by improving the sanitary condition of food establishments. The Health District investigates reports of illnesses caused by food. By identifying the cause of the illness, we can prevent future occurrences. All plans for new and renovating food establishments are reviewed and approved by the Health District to help ensure that they are built or renovated according to current food safety standards.

### **Housing and Property Maintenance Code Enforcement**

Local ordinances establish minimum standards for the maintenance of all premises. It is the responsibility of the Health District to enforce these codes. Buildings are inspected to ensure that lighting, ventilation, electricity, heating, and plumbing are up to code and properly maintained.

### **Vector Control-Mosquito and Tick Reduction**

Lyme Disease and West Nile Virus are just two examples of vector-borne diseases. The Health District has a variety of educational materials available to the public. These materials are an excellent resource for information regarding protection of people, pets and property.

## **Non-Emergency Contacts West Hartford, CT**

### **West Hartford - Bloomfield Health District:**

580 Cottage Grove Road, Suite 100  
Bloomfield, CT 06002  
Phone: (860) 561-7900  
Fax: (860)561-7918

### **Senior and Social Services:**

Human Services Office  
50 South Main Street, Room 306  
West Hartford, CT 06107  
Phone: (860) 561-7561  
Fax: (860) 561-7577

**For other town departments:** <http://www.westhartfordct.gov>

### **Urgent Care Centers**

#### **Doctor's Express Urgent Care**

1030 Boulevard, WH  
Phone: (860) 986-6440

#### **Hartford Healthcare Medical Group**

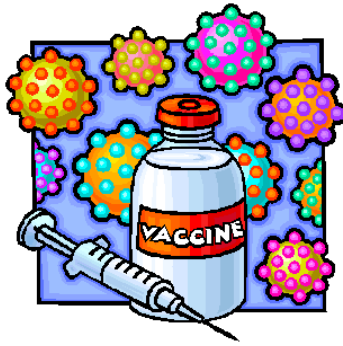
445 South Main Street, WH  
Phone: (860) 696-2200

#### **Hartford Healthcare Medical Group**

336 North Main Street, WH  
Phone: (860) 232-4891

#### **New England Urgent Care**

21 North Main Street, WH  
Phone: (860) 236-3911



**Vaccines for Children & Adults**

*Offered by the West Hartford-Bloomfield  
Health District*



- |                      |  |                                       |              |
|----------------------|--|---------------------------------------|--------------|
| <b>Tdap</b>          | <b>MMR</b>                               | <b>Chicken Pox (<i>Varicella</i>)</b> | <b>Flu</b>   |
| <b>Hepatitis B</b>   | <b>Hepatitis A</b>                       | <b>PPD Testing</b>                    | <b>Polio</b> |
| <b>Meningococcal</b> | <b>Shingles (<i>for adults only</i>)</b> |                                       |              |



**For your convenience, please call for an appointment or additional  
information:**

**860-561-7900 - ext. 0**

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