

**QUABBIN HEALTH DISTRICT
2007 ANNUAL REPORT**

The Quabbin Health District is a regional health department serving the communities of Belchertown, Ware, and Pelham. It was established by town meeting vote in 1980 and is the joint effort of the local Boards of Health to provide their towns with public health professionals and services. Our primary duties center on enforcing provisions of the State Sanitary Code and Environmental Code under the jurisdiction of the Board of Health. We also provide technical assistance and educational services to residents and other municipal departments. The Quabbin Health District serves a total population of approximately 25,000 residents in an area of about 120 square miles in Hampshire County. The following table lists the major activity/ services provided to each town in the District during 2007.

	Belchertown	Ware	Pelham
PercTest / Deepholes and Soil Evaluations	104	48	15
Septic Application Review (New Construction)	51	26	1
Septic Application Review (Repair)	51	19	10
Septic Installation Inspections and Re-inspections	93	34	11
Well Application Review	49	N/A	3
Housing Inspections (upon complaint)	14	34	1
Housing Re-inspections	21	129	1
Rental Voucher Inspections (upon request)	1	10	0
Lead Paint Inspections	0	9	1
Housing Hearings	0	4	0

New Food Establishment Openings	2	3	1
Food Establishment Inspections	81	112	2
Mobile Temporary Food Inspections	36	6	0
Nuisance Orders Issued or Investigated	16	30	3
Court Appearances	5	10	0
Tanning/ Massage Licensure	12	12	0
Food Illness Complaints/ Food Recall Inspections	5	3	0
Body Art Establishment Inspections/ Complaint	N/A	1	N/A
Public Pool and Sauna Inspections	1	1	N/A
Board Meetings	12	13	10

Total: Activities District-wide

1117

The Quabbin Health District is governed by a Board of Directors, which is composed of the elected Board of Health members from all three communities within the District. The meeting places rotate among the three Town Halls. During 2007 the main agenda items discussed by the Board were the 2008 budget, town assessments, and the rising cost of health insurance and pension costs.

The Health Director and Inspector work in all three communities and maintain fully functional workplaces in both the Ware and Belchertown Town Halls. The District provides administrative / clerical personnel at both locations as well.

An ongoing activity of personnel is to participate in continuing education seminars and training sessions sponsored by various Federal and State agencies as well as professional groups. All three communities belong to the Hampshire Public Health Emergency Preparedness Coalition, with the Director of Public Health sitting on the Executive Committee.

I would like to thank members of the District Board of Directors for their continued support. I would also like to acknowledge the hard work and effort shown by my co-workers: Randall Gauley, Health Inspector; Betty Barlow, Administrative Assistant; and Mary Grenier, Senior Clerk.

Sincerely,

Judy Metcalf, R.S., C.H.O.
Director of Public Health
Quabbin Health District