

STATE OF CONNECTICUT

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH

Deidre S. Gifford, MD, MPH
Acting Commissioner



Ned Lamont
Governor
Susan Bysiewicz
Lt. Governor

ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH AND DRINKING WATER BRANCH

EHS Circular Letter **2020-85**

DATE: December 1, 2020

TO: Directors of Health
Chief Sanitarians
Certified Food Inspectors
Interested Parties

FROM: Lori J. Mathieu, Public Health Branch Chief
Environmental Health & Drinking Water Branch

Handwritten signature of Lori J. Mathieu, dated 2020.

RE: Environmental Health Training Program at Southern Connecticut State University

Southern Connecticut State University (SCSU), in collaboration with the Connecticut Department of Public Health (DPH) is offering the Environmental Health Training Program (EHTP).

The EHTP course is designed to help prepare and train sanitarians, including those presently and aspiring to be employed in local health departments, in a variety of areas important to the field of environmental health. In addition to greatly increasing one's knowledge in the area of environmental health, successful completion of the course results in a six-month reduction in the amount of time an individual must be employed in a health department before sitting for the Registered Sanitarian exam. Successful completion of the entire course also makes those aspiring to work in the field more marketable for entering the workforce.

This letter details the three sections of the training: food protection, subsurface sewage and general topics. Registration details are provided on page 2.

This year, due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the course will be an online experience and will be held live at the times listed. Sessions will not be recorded for viewing at a later time so it is important that students ensure their schedules will not conflict with the course schedule.



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I. FOOD PROTECTION COURSE

Food Inspector Training for New Personnel: Based on Regulations of Connecticut State Agencies § 19-13-B42

January 6, 13, 20, 27 and February 3, 2021 (8:30 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.)

Examination: February 10, 2021 (9 a.m. to 10:30 a.m.)

This course will provide prospective food inspectors with an opportunity to gain the basic knowledge that will prepare them for when they do become employed by a local health department and are then eligible to begin the formal food inspector certification process. This course is the first step required to become a certified food inspector. After successful completion of this classroom training, qualified individuals working at local health departments can continue moving forward with the food inspector certification process. Public health professionals—regulators, microbiologists, and epidemiologists—will also present critical topics, such as foodborne pathogens, outbreak investigations, how to conduct an inspection, enforcement, ethics, and the food inspector certification process.

In addition to those interested in pursuing food inspector certification, others may find the course beneficial. Directors of Health who are not certified and food industry personnel may find the course helpful in gaining a better understanding of the current food regulations and the food establishment inspection process.

SUCCESSFUL COMPLETION OF THE FOOD PROTECTION COURSE INCLUDES: mandatory attendance at all five classes; completion of homework assignments; and a passing grade on the written exam given on 2/10/21.

If you have questions concerning the Food Protection Training course, contact Cynthia Costa at the FPP at 860/509-7297.

II. SUBSURFACE SEWAGE COURSE

February 10, 2021 (12:00 PM – 3:00 PM)

February 17, 24 and March 3, 10, 2021 (8:30 AM – 3:00 PM)

Examination: March 17, 2021 (9:00 AM – 11:00 AM)

The Connecticut DPH is offering the Phase I Subsurface Sewage Disposal Certification program, hosted by SCSU, every Wednesday from February 10 – March 24, 2021. Attendance in all days of the online training and successful completion of the examination is required for all regulatory officials involved with sewage disposal matters pursuant to Section 19-13-B103e (b)(2) of the Public Health Code. Attendance is mandatory for certification. We encourage previously certified persons to attend as a refresher.

SUCCESSFUL COMPLETION OF THE SUBSURFACE SEWAGE COURSE INCLUDES: mandatory attendance at all five classes; completion of homework assignments; and a passing grade on the written exam given on 3/17/21.

If you have questions concerning the Subsurface Sewage Training course, e-mail Amanda Clark at amanda.clark@ct.gov.

III. GENERAL ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH TOPICS

March 24, 31 and April 7, 14, 2021 (9:00 – 1:00 pm)

April 21, 2021 (9:00 – 12:00 pm)

The General Environmental Health Topics course will provide presentations on topics such as lead, asbestos, drinking water, vector-borne diseases, emergency preparedness, local health infrastructure, hospital and nursing home inspections and licensing. Presentations are provided by experts in the field, providing their applied experience on each topic area. A full schedule can be viewed on CTrain, Resources tab.

REGISTRATION:

SCSU is coordinating registration for the EHTP. Course registration will be done on the Train Connecticut website. After registering for the course online, payment can be made to SCSU by credit card. Detailed information is available at the [SCSU Public Health webpage](#) for all three segments of the EHTP course (Food Protection, Sewage Disposal, and the General Environmental Health Topics segment) which can be taken all together or individually. **DO NOT SEND PAYMENTS TO DPH.** To register, go to <https://ct.train.org> and scroll the ***Upcoming Events*** to locate the course or search by the course number: 1024557(Food), 1024559(Sewage) and 1014804(General Topics).

The cost for the full course (all 3 sections) is \$500, but students may elect to take one section or two sections. If taken separately the costs are \$175 for Food Protection, \$175 for Subsurface Sewage, and \$150 for General Topics.

For registration and general course questions (e.g. parking, room #, etc.), contact Dr. William G. Faraclas, Southern Connecticut State University; Email: ehpt@southernct.edu

C: Jim Vannoy, Chief, Environmental Health Section
William G. Faraclas, DrPh, Professor, Southern CT State University