

STATE OF CONNECTICUT

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH

Raul Pino, M.D., M.P.H.
Commissioner



Dannel P. Malloy
Governor
Nancy Wyman
Lt. Governor

Environmental Health Section

EHS Circular Letter #2018-34

DATE: December 11, 2018

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

FROM: Christine Hahn, MPH
Epidemiologist

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) in Davis Hall on the SCSU campus in New Haven, CT.

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, sub-surface sewage and general topics. Registration details are provided on page 2.

I. **FOOD PROTECTION COURSE**

Food Inspector Training for New Personnel: Introduction to the FDA Food Code
January 9, 16, 23, 30 and February 6, 2019 (9:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.)
Examination: February 13, 2019 (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. While not required for food inspector certification, successful completion of the Food Protection Training course also makes those aspiring to work in the field more marketable for entering the workforce. The course includes an introduction to the 2017 FDA Food Code that Connecticut will be adopting in 2019. Public health professionals—regulators,



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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 FDA Food Code and the food establishment inspection process.

SUCCESSFUL COMPLETION OF THE COURSE INCLUDES: attendance at all five classes; completion of homework assignments; and a passing grade on the written exam given on 2/13/19.

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

II. SUBSURFACE SEWAGE

Training takes place on Wednesdays:

February 13, 2019 (12:00 pm – 4:00 pm)

February 20, 27 and March 6, 13, 2019 (9:00 am – 4:00 pm)

Examination: March 20, 2019 (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 13 – March 20, 2019. Attendance 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.

III. GENERAL ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH TOPICS

March 20, 2019 (12:00 – 3:30 pm)

March 27 – May 1, 2019 (9:00 – 4:00 pm)

The General Environmental Health Topics course will provide presentations on topics such as lead, asbestos, drinking water, vector-borne diseases, and 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 TrainCT, 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 check or 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.

IMPORTANT NOTE!

If the Wednesday scheduled class should be cancelled due to weather, the makeup class will be held on Friday of the same week. Please be sure your schedule can accommodate makeup days on Fridays, as attendance at all classes is required for successful completion of the training.

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 Manish Watts, Southern Connecticut State University: Tel: (203) 392-6966; FAX: (203) 392-6965 Email: wattsm2@owls.southernct.edu

C: Suzanne Blancaflor, M.S., M.P.H., Chief, Environmental Health Section
William G. Faraclas, DrPh, Professor, Southern CT State University
Manish Watts, MPH, EHTP Course Coordinator, Southern CT State University