

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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EPI STRIKE TEAM TO SURVEY RESIDENTS SATURDAY

Are you planning to be home Saturday afternoon? If so, you might get a knock on your door from the Disaster Epidemiology Strike Team!

The newly-formed Epi-Strike Team, founded by Ledge Light Health District and the Medical Reserve Corps, will have their first training and exercise on September 7, which will include going door-to-door in neighborhoods throughout Southeastern Connecticut to survey residents about their emergency preparedness plans.

“In the event of a disaster, the Epi Strike Team would be dispatched to the affected area to find out the immediate needs of residents and act as a liaison between residents and their town emergency management officials,” said Russell Melmed, Ledge Light Health District epidemiologist and Epi Strike Team coordinator. “This exercise is a great way for the Strike Team to practice surveying residents and will hopefully give us some helpful insight into how prepared our population is for an emergency.”

Melmed said the survey should take about five minutes and will include questions about emergency supplies, household evacuation plans and communication methods during an emergency. Residents who agree to answer the survey questions will be given a \$5 gift card to Dunkin Donuts.

For more information about the Epi Strike Team, contact Russell Melmed at 860-448-4882 ext. 311 or rmelmed@llhd.org

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Ledge Light Health District – LLHD – serves as the local health department for East Lyme, Groton, Ledyard, New London and Waterford, Connecticut. As a health district, formed under [Connecticut General Statutes Section 19a-241](#), LLHD is a special unit of government, allowing member municipalities to provide comprehensive public health services to residents in a more efficient manner by consolidating the services within one organization.

The Director of Health and staff of LLHD work to promote health and wellness among the 120,000 residents we serve. By enforcing the Connecticut Public Health Code, conducting health education programs, monitoring disease outbreaks and nurturing our environment, LLHD is focused on *promoting healthy communities*.

LLHD's mission statement – **to prevent disease, illness and injury; to protect and nurture our environment; and to promote improved health and prosperity for all residents** – describes in more detail our slogan of “promoting healthy communities.”

Promoting healthy communities

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