

**BEFORE THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
FOR MULTNOMAH COUNTY, OREGON**

PROCLAMATION NO. _____

Proclaiming Monday, April 28th, 2014 as Environmental Health Specialist Day in Multnomah County, Oregon.

The Multnomah County Board of Commissioners Finds:

a. Multnomah County employs 25 Environmental Health Specialists who work to reduce or eliminate environmental health risk factors that cause human suffering, disease or injuries.

b. In Multnomah County, the work of Environmental Health Specialists varies tremendously but can include: inspecting the restaurants and food carts we dine at, ensuring the water that comes from our faucet is safe and free of harmful pathogens, investigating cases of lead poisoning in children, ensuring that housing is safe, habitable and healthy, protecting our children by inspecting childcare facilities, working to ensure the air at our schools is healthy and safe to breathe, and investigating communicable disease outbreaks tied to food, water or other environmental sources.

c. In many ways, the Environmental Health Specialist is the “unsung hero” of public health. According to an article in *Environmental Health* (Kochitzky, C. 2010, pp: 30-33), in the last 100 years, Environmental Health Specialists have increased life expectancy in the United States by 30 years, with 80 percent of this improvement coming from safer food and drinking water.

d. The quality of life and health experienced by the residents of Multnomah County has been greatly improved because of the dedication and hard work of our nationally recognized staff of Environmental Health Specialists.

The Multnomah County Board of Commissioners Proclaims:

Monday, April 28th, 2014 as Environmental Health Specialist Day in Multnomah County, Oregon.

ADOPTED this 28th day of April, 2014.

**BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
FOR MULTNOMAH COUNTY, OREGON**

Marissa Madrigal, Acting Chair

SUBMITTED BY: Chair Marissa Madrigal