

Montana Environmental Health Association – *continued*

Services Provided by Environmental Health – *continued*

Air Quality Programs

- Monitoring air quality;
- Regulation of emissions through local ordinances; and
- Public education on radon, mold, carbon monoxide, etc.

Communicable Disease Prevention

- Investigation of food, waterborne, zoonotic illnesses; and
- Monitor and control the spread of zoonotic illnesses such as rabies, West Nile Virus, and hantavirus.

What Services are Provided by MEHA?

- Communication services and tools: MEHA website includes calendar of events, Registered Sanitarian Homepage, employment opportunities, various resources, MEHA newsletter published biannually;
- Reinforcement of the environmental public health message by being a point of contact for the environmental health community and community as a whole;
- Ongoing dialogue regarding how to build a stronger environmental public health system in Montana; and
- Two professional conferences held yearly for environmental public health professionals.



Lake McDonald

**Montana Environmental
Health Association**
P. O. Box 741 • Helena, MT 59624
www.mehaweb.org

MEHA is governed by association officers which consist of the following members: President; President-elect; First Vice President; Past-President; Treasurer; and four Board of Directors, one of which serves as an Alternate Treasurer.



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Montana Environmental Health Association

Our Mission

Our Mission is to maintain and improve the standards of performance of professionals in the field of environmental health in Montana through education and outreach.



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Montana Environmental Health Association



a Nonprofit Group

The Montana Environmental Health Association is a nonprofit group of professionals who work to protect public health related to our every day environment. Many of our members work in the fields of water/wastewater protection, food safety, public accommodation licensing, air quality, and environmental public health complaints.

Our membership is comprised of professionals who are registered sanitarians, engineers, hydrologists, environmental consultants, and health educators. We are an affiliate of the National Environmental Health Association.

Environmental Health Defined

Environmental health is an organized approach to addressing environmental issues that impact the health of the general population. Three main elements of the environment that are monitored are the food we eat, the air we breathe, and the water we drink.

These factors, and many others, are overseen in order to maintain conditions whereby people can enjoy good health.

Toston Reservoir



What is a Registered Sanitarian?

A Registered Sanitarian is a professional who works in the field of public health with an emphasis on assessing environmental conditions. Registered sanitarians may also be known as Registered Environmental Health Specialists (REHS). In Montana, most registered sanitarians are employed by local health departments under the auspices of a board of health and a health officer. Sanitarians may also be employed by state agencies such as the Montana Department of Public Health and Human Services, Montana Department of Environmental Quality, or may be in private practice.

Services Provided by the Environmental Health Association

The services provided by environmental health professionals are diverse. The following are a few of the areas MEHA professionals work in:

Subdivision Review

- Review of water supply, on-site wastewater treatment; storm water and solid waste disposal; and
- Review of environmental assessments.



Wildgoose Lake

On-site Wastewater Programs

- Review plans and designs;
- Review applications and issue permits;
- Inspect sites and system installations; and
- License septic installers and pumps.

On-site Drinking Water Programs

- Inspection of Public Water Supplies;
- Education regarding individual water supplies.

Food Licensing and Inspection

- Perform facility plan review and inspection;
- Administration of food purveyor licenses;
- Provide food handler education; and
- Investigate foodborne illnesses.

Public Accommodation Licensing

- Inspect and license hotels, motels, bed and breakfasts, trailer courts, campgrounds, pools, and spas.

continued