

## **MEDIA RELEASE**

Canton City Health Department

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### **For Immediate Release**

#### **Longtime Environmental Health Director Accepts Henry County Health Commissioner Position**

Canton City Health Department's longtime Director of Environmental Health and employee, Mark Adams, has resigned his position and is heading west, having accepted the position of Health Commissioner for the Henry County Health Department in Napoleon, Ohio.

Mark has been with the Health Department for nearly 24 years. During that time, he founded the Recycle Center, achieved academic health department status with multiple area universities and created an internship program that prides itself with a 100% job placement rate.

"Advocating for and educating public health students, staff, clients and on a broader basis, our communities, is essential for a healthier future," said Mark. "When I started, people hoarded information because they felt it provided job security. It has been my objective to help shape the future of public health so they are prepared to do it better when my generation goes."

Mark's quirky work-related situations have been the subject of many local stories. Through the years, he and his crew have discovered pigs, horses, chickens, and other farm critters tucked away inside Canton homes. Let's not forget the alligator. Under his watch, his staff has pulled countless neglected animals out of homes, helped suspected abused children seek refuge, took unique approaches to urban blight that have made national news and through the Recycle Center, repaired multiple TV's and laptops that have been given away to victims of theft and fire.

Mark is the recipient of the 2006 Canton Jaycees Distinguished Service Award, the 2014 Ohio Environmental Health Association Sanitarian of the Year Award, and holds adjunct faculty positions with NEOMED, Kent State University and the University of Cincinnati. Mark is also a decorated veteran, having served 22 years in the military.

The Canton City Board of Health accepted Mark's letter of resignation with regret at their regular Board meeting April 23, 2018.

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