



Mountain Rose Herbs is a mission-based company whose motto is people, plants, and planet before profit. Founded in 1987, we are a certified organic, retail purveyor of herbs and spices, loose-leaf teas, essential oils, body care products, culinary delights, and DIY supplies. Our catalog and website feature over 1500 organic products and we ship over 1000 packages daily direct to customers. In 2017, we operated in seven buildings with a total of 137,350 sq. ft. in Eugene, Oregon. We are committed to sustainable business practices, organic agriculture, and equality.

#### **Our success depends on our ability to attract and retain a high quality workforce**

Mountain Rose Herbs employs over 200 people. We offer highly competitive wages, an excellent benefit and retirement package, personal finance and herbal education opportunities, supplemental insurance, an alternative commuting program, and 24 hours of annual paid time for community involvement. Employee led service programs such as the Mountain Rose River Project allow for personal interaction with ownership while working together to enhance our community. In 2017, Mountain Rose Herbs employees volunteered 815 hours, donated 668 pounds of canned food and spices to Food for Lane County and gave 514 pounds of clothing to Occupy Medical and St. Vincent de Paul.

#### **Our values of prioritizing people, plants and planet lie at the core of every business decision w**

From product quality and sustainable packaging to fair trade and watershed conservation, we promise our customers that we will do business right. Our business model is reliant upon the success of sustainable agricultural practices and organic farming. Our entire line of plant-based products is certified organic whenever possible or wildharvested in landscapes free from synthetic fertilizers and pesticides. At our in-house Quality Control Laboratory, we rigorously test products to ensure their safety and authenticity for our customers.

Tours of our facilities are available to community and business leaders who are interested in learning more about our environmental programs and sustainable business action plans. We are proud to have converted to 100% renewable energy by investing in solar power and offsetting our remaining electrical usage through development projects with NativeEnergy and our local utility's Greenpower Program. In 2017, our in-house solar array generated 34 MWh of power for our facility, and we offset 876 metric tons of carbon emissions. The same year, our overall electrical use decreased by 15,023 kWh even though we added two buildings.

Our campus includes a biolswale, rain garden, native landscaping, and a 'Rewilding Project' that earned Safe on-Safe certification in 2013. After our water consumption increased in 2015, we instituted water conservation practices resulting in the conservation of over 150,000 gallons of water in 2016 and 37,500 gallons in 2017.

Mountain Rose Herbs became the first company in Oregon to receive TRUE Zero Waste Facility Certification from GBCI and we qualified at the highest level—Platinum. Extensive waste and recycling efforts have us on track to do even better in 2018, with internal audits revealing more than 97% of our waste is being diverted from the landfill.

**Thank you for your interest and we hope you will visit [www.mountainroseherbs.com](http://www.mountainroseherbs.com) or see the annual Mountain Rose Herbs Sustainability Report for additional information.**

## **Support SB 853, HB 3058**

A growing body of scientific study shows threats from several commonly used pesticides to human health, water quality, aquatic species, pollinators, and the biodiversity upon which we all depend.<sup>i</sup> While ensuring state agencies are upholding their responsibility to protect the public, we must pursue common sense solutions that also protect responsible businesses, farmers, schools, and workers.

### **Neonicotinoids**

Neonicotinoids (“neonics”) are a class of synthetically created neurotoxic pesticides widely used for domestic pest control and on a broad range of food, energy, and ornamental crops. They are highly toxic to insects, pollinators, and freshwater invertebrates, posing threats to water quality, fish, and birds. Neonics are highly persistent in soils, wildflowers, streams and lakes.<sup>ii</sup> After 242 scientists from around the world cited an “immediate need for national and international agreements to greatly restrict their use”, the European Union recently banned the outdoor use of three neonics.<sup>iii</sup> Oregon currently requires certification and training in order to buy, sell, or disseminate over 500 restricted use pesticides, yet none of the neonics are included on the list. SB 853/HB 3058 would add neonics to the list of restricted use pesticides, and HB 2619 would ban them in Oregon.

### **Chlorpyrifos**

Chlorpyrifos is a widely used organophosphate insecticide tied to development disorders in children that is harmful for humans to touch, inhale or eat.<sup>iv</sup> It acts as a nerve agent, attacking chemical pathways in the body creating a breakdown in the ability of nerves to communicate and function.<sup>v</sup> The United States Environmental Protection Agency under Scott Pruitt recently refused to finalize a court ordered national ban on Chlorpyrifos, necessitating action at the state level.<sup>vi</sup> To protect the health of farmworkers, to safeguard our food supply, and to protect our environment, we urge Oregon to join Hawaii in passing the statewide ban on Chlorpyrifos found in SB 853/HB 3058.

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<sup>i</sup> The Xerces Society. “Scientists Urge Action to Protect Waters from Neonicotinoid Insecticides”. 3/13/18.

Lipton, Eric. *New York Times*. “Court Orders E.P.A. to Ban Chlorpyrifos, Pesticide Tied to Children’s Health Problems”. 8/9/18.

<sup>ii</sup> Goulson, Dave and 232 Signatories. *Science Magazine*. “Neonicotinoids: An open letter to policy makers and regulators”. 6/1/18

<sup>iii</sup> Butler, Declan. *Nature*. “Scientists hail European ban on bee-harming pesticides”. 4/27/18.

<sup>iv</sup> National Pesticide Information Center. Chlorpyrifos General Fact Sheet. 4/10.

<sup>v</sup> Cuthbert, Lori. *National Geographic*. “EPA Must Ban Dangerous Insecticide”. 8/10/2018

<sup>vi</sup> National Resources Defense Council. “Hawaii Bans Use of Toxic Pesticide Chlorpyrifos” 6/13/18.