



YOUR WATER.



YOUR HEALTH.



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People BEHIND THE WATER

Bruce Macler, USEPA Regulator, Risk Assessment Expert, San Francisco, California

For the past 15 years, Bruce Macler has been exploring potential risks to water quality, so water consumers don't have to.

As a US Environmental Protection Agency Regulatory and Risk Assessment Expert, Macler helps develop national policies and programs in health and risk assessment management—most recently in the evaluation of possible bioterrorism risks to drinking water supplies. These evaluations are then communicated to all levels of the drinking water infrastructure from state and national regulators to the local utilities.

“A big part of my job is to communicate to and between the various parts of our drinking water community—acting as a liaison and facilitator of information from each group's unique perspectives on the challenges we all face,” Macler explains. “I am responsible for taking a step back to look at the big picture of what is really a threat to the public and what is not.”

In addition to risk assessment, Macler's responsibilities include making sure that the complex rules of the Safe Drinking Water Act are communicated effectively to all utilities and that the stringent guidelines are enforced by state regulators. The Safe Drinking Water Act is a comprehensive law with regulations that impact each water system in a unique way.

Prior to joining the USEPA, Macler worked for NASA. Eventually, he decided that he could do more to serve the American public by focusing on safe drinking water. “Why study water systems for Mars when you can help protect the people right here on earth?” he likes to say. “I just felt that there was more important work at the EPA. ... work that could really help people.”



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