

## Contaminant Regulation Process

- The top priority of Private Water Service Providers, National Association of Water Company (NAWC) members and water utility professionals is protecting public health and meeting public health and environmental standards. NAWC members work vigilantly to meet all new and existing health and environmental regulations.
- The Safe Drinking Water Act (SDWA) mandates a rigorous scientific process for evaluating risks to public health and determining what risk management actions are appropriate. This scientific process is important to ensure that the Agency directs water providers to address actual risks and does not misdirect resources based on incomplete or faulty information. No regulatory decision should fall short of the Safe Drinking Water's risk evaluation process.
- The NAWC has always supported regulations that ensure safe water, are developed through a transparent process, are based on the best available science, and provide meaningful public health protection.
- Advanced technology has allowed scientists to detect more compounds and substances at far lower levels than ever before. We are now able to detect substances in water at levels down to a few parts per trillion. For comparison, the safe levels established by most drinking water regulations are 1000 times higher, in the parts per billion range. EPA, in coordination with water providers, must help consumers to understand the health risks or lack thereof of trace contaminants.
- Awareness of the challenges facing utilities can only lead to safer water and better regulation. NAWC members actively work with the government to address these issues and continue to comply with all health and environmental regulations. In many cases, NAWC members are tapped by government entities to help bring previously non-compliant systems into compliance.