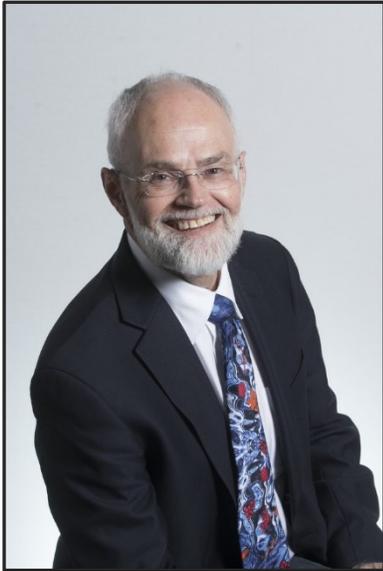


Vincent J. Radke, MPH, RS, CP-FS, CPH, DLAAS 2021 Walter S. Mangold Award Recipient



Denver, CO: The National Environmental Health Association (NEHA) is honored to announce that the 2021 Walter S. Mangold Award will be presented to Vincent J. Radke, MPH, RS, CP-FS, CPH, DLAAS. The Mangold Award recognizes individuals for outstanding contributions to the advancement of the environmental health professional. It is the highest distinction that the association can bestow on one of its members.

In keeping with the legacy of Walter S. Mangold, Radke's impressive career is an example of both professionalism and service. Radke served as president of NEHA from 2018–2019. He was nominated for the Mangold Award by Adam London, MPA, PhD, RS, current president of the NEHA Past Presidents Affiliate. In his nomination letter, London wrote, "He is my friend to be sure, but even as a seasoned environmental health professional, I learned so much from him about the art and craft of being a better leader and a better person." Bob Custard, REHS, CP-FS, who helped to document Radke's numerous accomplishments, echoes the sentiment stated repeatedly throughout the nomination packet. "Vince Radke's 50+ year

career in environmental health is truly exemplary. Through his work at the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), six local health departments in four states, the World Health Organization (WHO), and the U.S. Peace Corps, he has served humanity with excellence. Vince, always a source of inspiration and encouragement, has been a friend to all and a mentor to many. I am delighted that he has been selected to receive NEHA's highest honor, the Walter S. Mangold Award."

From 2001–2018, Radke was a sanitarian for the Environmental Health Services Branch (EHSB) of CDC where he helped lead collaborative food safety activities, including the Environmental Health Specialists Network (EHS-Net) within CDC at the National Center for Environmental Health (NCEH) and the National Center for Infectious Diseases. Laura Brown, PhD, lead of the Safe Food Section at NCEH, said, "Vince has had a substantial, positive impact on food safety at the federal, state, and local level." Glenda Lewis, director for the Retail Food Protection Staff at the Food and Drug Administration (FDA), stated, "Vince has set a pattern in demeanor, professionalism, and integrity that remains a pattern for exemplary service for all following in his footsteps."

In 2010, Radke became the CDC advisor to the Conference for Food Protection (CFP) Board of Directors. In this position, he advised industry, academic, consumer, federal, state, and local representatives on food safety policies, FDA *Food Code* issues, and committee and council reports submitted to the CFP Board of Directors. He also served as the CDC advisor to CFP's Council I until he retired from CDC in October 2018. After retirement, Radke was asked by NEHA to be a NEHA representative at the 2020 CFP meeting. In a letter to the Mangold Award Nomination Committee, John Marcello, special assistant to the director within the FDA Office of State Cooperative Programs, shared that Radke's "voice resonates to this day and is a major influence in changing the culture of regulatory food protection programs from regulatory programs with a public health component to public health programs with a regulatory component."

Radke was involved in many domestic (including tribal and territorial) and international emergency responses to natural and man-made disasters. Some of these responses included an earthquake and tsunami in Indonesia, Ebola in West Africa, Zika virus in the U.S. and Caribbean, Rocky Mountain spotted fever in the Western U.S., an

earthquake in Haiti, the Deepwater Horizon oil spill in the Gulf of Mexico, multiple hurricanes in the U. S. and Caribbean, and the Fukushima Daiichi nuclear disaster in Japan. He provided environmental health information, surveillance, risk assessment, and analysis, including recovery information for emergency response staff and the populations impacted by these disasters. Due to his reputation for professionalism, Radke was specifically requested by the Office of Foreign Disaster Assistance to provide environmental health assistance for a typhoon and tsunami in the Federated States of Micronesia during January 2009, and again to the Philippines following multiple typhoons in 2010.

Before his work at CDC, Radke held several environmental health positions in Connecticut, West Virginia, Virginia, and Minnesota. During this time he was influential in establishing the FDA *Food Code* in Fairfax County, Arlington County, and the City of Alexandria in Virginia. For this work, he was honored in 1997 and 1999 by the National Capital Area Environmental Health Association with their highest honor, the Jerrold M. Michael Award. Radke served as president of the National Capital Area Environmental Health Association (1991–1992) and the Virginia Environmental Health Association (1997–1998).

As a surveillance and assessment officer with the U.S. Peace Corps and WHO, Radke worked with the Ethiopian Ministry of Health, tribal chiefs and schools, health clinics, and church staff to combat smallpox and establish cholera and tuberculosis immunization programs. WHO requested Radke to assist with the eradication of smallpox in Bangladesh and to document that smallpox had been eliminated in Kenya. In 1976 he was awarded the Order of the Bifurcated Needle by WHO Director-General for his efforts in this area. WHO declared smallpox eradicated in 1980.

Radke served as chair of the American Academy of Sanitarians (AAS) Board of Directors from 2014–2015. Presently, he serves as vice-chair of AAS. He has served as a council member on the National Environmental Health Science and Protection Accreditation Council (EHAC), reviewing and accrediting environmental courses of study in environmental health at undergraduate and graduate levels. Working with AAS, EHAC, and NEHA, Radke was able to streamline the application process for students to apply for either undergraduate or graduate scholarships. In addition, the number and amount of money awarded were increased. During the past three face-to-face NEHA Annual Educational Conferences, Radke has personally provided financial support for a student welcome reception. As a member of AAS, he has been part of mentoring sessions with students and young professionals. He continues to be a guest lecture on environmental health issues at the Rollins School of Public Health at Emory University.

Presently, Radke continues his work in environmental health. He consults with the Association of Food and Drug Officials on food safety issues. He is president-elect of the NEHA Past Presidents Affiliate and is a board member of the International Food Protection Training Institute. During 2020–2021, Radke conducted pro bono consulting regarding the COVID-19 pandemic with certain national companies and local restaurants in Atlanta, Georgia.

The NEHA Board of Directors, staff, and Mangold Award Selection Committee are delighted to award Vince Radke the 2021 Walter S. Mangold Award. The committee chair, CAPT Michael E. Herring, REHS, MPH, USPHS (ret.), stated, "The Mangold Award Committee was greatly impressed with the extraordinary breadth of Vince Radke's career and accomplishments in the field of environmental health. From serving in vital roles for the U.S. Peace Corps and WHO that resulted in the eradication of smallpox from the planet, to his extensive career and achievements working in local, state, federal, and international environmental health programs, Vince's career of more than 50 years has been exceptional in every way. His leadership and service have advanced the mission of NEHA, along with numerous other important public health and environmental health agencies and organizations. Vince Radke is a most deserving recipient of the 2021 Walter S. Mangold Award."



About the National Environmental Health Association

The National Environmental Health Association (NEHA) is a professional society with more than 6,500 members in the public and private sectors as well as in universities and the uniformed services. NEHA's mission to "advance the environmental health and protection professional for the purpose of providing a healthful environment for all" is fulfilled in the products and services offered by NEHA to advance the environmental health professional through credentialing, training, education, networking, professional development, and policy. Learn more about NEHA at www.neha.org.