

NJLINCS Health Alert Network
Public Health Info

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Subject: Food Recalls
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Please review the following message from Alan Talarsky, Environmental Scientist 1, Public Health and Food Protection Program, NJDOH regarding the following Class 1 Recalls issued by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration:

1. Jensen Tuna of Louisiana is voluntarily recalling frozen ground tuna imported from JK Fish, because it may potentially be contaminated with Salmonella.

The frozen product, individually packaged in clear plastic one-pound bags, is sold in white wax 20 lb. boxes. The product is only sold as a wholesale case with twenty bags in each case. The lot numbers are z266, z271 and z272.

No other tuna products are impacted or part of this recall.

The product was sold to wholesalers in Connecticut, Iowa, Illinois, Minnesota, North Dakota, New York, and Washington. These wholesalers further distribute the product to restaurants and retail locations. The product was distributed from November 30, 2018 to March 15, 2019. While it is not certain that these products were distributed into NJ, NJDOH is informing you of this recall out of an abundance of caution.

Restaurants and retailers should check with their suppliers and not sell or serve recalled frozen ground tuna and should wash and sanitize locations where recalled ground tuna was stored. Consumers with concerns should ask their restaurants and retailers whether the tuna dish they are purchasing contained the recalled ground tuna.

The voluntary recall is in response to the CDC and FDA's investigation of 13 illnesses caused by Salmonella, confirmed to date. As of today, the ground tuna samples were found negative for Salmonella.

Salmonella is an organism that can cause serious and sometimes fatal infections in young children, frail or elderly people, and others with weakened immune systems. Most people infected with Salmonella develop symptoms within 12 to 72 hours after infections, according to the FDA. The illness, marked by diarrhea, fever and abdominal cramps, usually lasts 4 to 7 days.

Please contact Jensen Tuna at 985-868-8809 (Monday-Friday, 8am to 3pm, Central time) or email at info@jensentuna.com with questions.

2. Hercules Candy LLC . of East Syracuse, NY, is recalling its 4 ounce packages of Cashew Brittle Bits because they may contain undeclared peanuts. People who have allergies to peanuts run the risk of serious or life-threatening allergic reaction if they consume this product. The recalled Cashew Brittle Bits were distributed from the brick and mortar retail in East Syracuse and nationally through the website www.herculescandy.com.

The product comes in a 4 ounce, clear plastic package marked with a "Best By" date of 7/14/19 and a barcode number of 00369, both labels are on the back of the package. There are no UPC codes.

No illnesses have been reported to date in connection with this problem. The matter was brought to the firm's attention by an online customer who sent an email. She is not allergic.

The recall was initiated after it was discovered that the peanut-containing product was distributed in packaging that did not reveal the presence of peanuts. Subsequent investigation indicates the problem was caused by a temporary breakdown in the company's production and packaging processes.

Production of the product has been suspended until FDA and the company are certain that the problem has been corrected.

Consumers who have purchased 4 ounce packages of Cashew Brittle Bits are urged to return them to the place of purchase for a full refund. Consumers with questions may contact the company at 1-315-463-4339 Monday through Friday from 10 am to 6 pm and Saturday from 10 am to 4 pm EST.

3. Unilever is voluntarily recalling a limited quantity of Ben & Jerry's Coconut Seven Layer Bar bulk and Ben & Jerry's Chunky Monkey pints, which may inadvertently contain tree nuts including almonds, Brazil nuts, and hazelnuts that are not declared in the ingredient list or allergy information list. Both affected products include a "Contains Walnuts" and a "May contain other tree nuts" label on the back of the pack. Persons who have an allergy or severe sensitivity to these undeclared tree nuts run the risk of a serious or life-threatening allergic reaction if they consume the recalled products.

This limited voluntary recall is being conducted with the knowledge of the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA). (Individual Case Safety Report Number 2065846.)

The affected Ben & Jerry's Coconut Seven Layer Bar bulk product is sold in a tub containing 2.4 gallons with a Consumer UPC of 076840104246 and best by date of SEP1520BJ4. The affected Ben & Jerry's Chunky Monkey pint is sold in a pint tub (473 mL) with a Consumer UPC of 076840100354 and best by dates of AUG2820BH2, AUG2920BH2, or AUG3020BH2.

The products were manufactured in the United States. The affected Chunky Monkey pints were distributed nationwide and reached consumers through retail stores. The affected Coconut Seven Layer Bar bulk products were distributed nationwide and reached consumers through wholesale and scoop shops. No product was shipped outside of the U.S.

No other container sizes or best by dates of Ben & Jerry's products - besides these specific lots of Coconut Seven Layer Bar bulk and Chunky Monkey pints - are affected by this voluntary recall, including other Pint Slices, pints or any other products served in Ben & Jerry's franchised Scoop Shops.

The recall was initiated after an undeclared nut was found during the production operation. Unilever has not received any reports of illness associated with this product, but the company is voluntarily recalling this product out of an abundance of caution. Unilever's ongoing investigation shows that the issue stemmed from an error from one of its nut suppliers. The situation has been remediated.

Consumers who have purchased containers of the above products with the affected UPC and date codes are asked to immediately discontinue use of the product, retain the outer container, and call 833-236-1237 for further information 24/7.

The company is placing a notification on the Food Allergy Research and Education (FARE) web site www.foodallergy.org.

For additional information, please visit www.benjerry.com or unileverusa.com.

No action is required of local health departments at this time for any of these recalls. If any requests for assistance are received from FDA, the Public Health and Food Protection Program will contact you. For additional information regarding warnings and recalls, please click on the weblink below.

For all recalls - <http://www.recalls.gov/recent.html>