



DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

News Release

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**DOH REMINDS CONSUMERS TO CHECK HOMES FOR
RECALLED FOOD ITEMS AND TOILETRIES**

HONOLULU - The Hawai'i State Department of Health (DOH) is urging consumers to check their homes for recently recalled food items and toiletries and discard them immediately. There have been several recent recalls including canned chili, snack foods, contact lens solution, toothpaste and canned dog food.

State and federal agencies are working with retailers, wholesalers and distributors to ensure that all recalled products are pulled from their shelves. DOH is asking for the public's help to get the word out to family and friends who may be unaware of the recalls. DOH also urges all charity organizations that maintain a food bank to check their donated goods to ensure that potentially contaminated foods are discarded.

The most recent recall involves Castleberry's Food Products. The affected products most commonly found in Hawai'i are Cattle Drive, Best Yet and Castleberry products and Natural Balance Eatables canned dog food. Due to the risk of botulism poisoning, 88 canned meat products under various brand names and 4 varieties of canned dog food under the Natural Balance Eatables brand have been recalled. There are no confirmed cases of botulism in Hawai'i at this time. DOH urges consumers to review the complete listing of recalled products on the Castleberry's web site at www.castleberrys.com or contact the Castleberry's consumer hotline at 1-800-203-4412 or 1-888-203-8446.

More

Consumers are also being warned not to eat Veggie Booty and Super Veggie Ting Crunchy Corn Sticks snack foods, which are marketed by Robert's American Gourmet. The products could possibly be contaminated with *Salmonella*, a type of bacteria that causes gastrointestinal illness. There are no reports of related illness in Hawai'i at this time. For more information please go to the Robert's American Gourmet web site at www.robscape.com or contact them at 1-800-626-7557.

DOH is warning consumers to immediately dispose of any opened or unopened bottle of Advanced Medical Optics (AMO) COMPLETE® MoisturePLUS™ Multi-purpose Contact Lens Solution due to an increased risk of a rare, but serious infection known as Acanthamoeba keratitis. In Hawai'i, three individuals were diagnosed with infection before the nationwide recall was announced. There have been no new reported infections in Hawai'i, but cases continue to be reported on the mainland. This infection is caused by a parasite and can result in permanent damage to the cornea and loss of vision. For additional information please go to the Advanced Medical Optics web site at www.amo-inc.com or contact them at 1-888-899-9183.

Consumers are also warned about toothpastes imported from China that may contain the poisonous chemical diethylene glycol (DEG), a chemical used in antifreeze and as a solvent. Consumers should immediately discard partially-used and unopened tubes. Currently, there have not been any reports of poisonings from toothpaste, but the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) is concerned about potential risks from chronic exposure to DEG and the possible effects on children and individuals with kidney or liver disease. For a complete listing of toothpastes found to contain DEG and for additional information go the FDA web site at www.fda.gov

For additional information regarding all the recalls listed above consumers can call the FDA at 1-888-SAFEFOOD or visit the FDA web site for current updates and information at www.fda.gov

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