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News media calls to David Hass at (630) 682-7979, ext. 7374.

DuPage County Health Department contacts county Businesses with information on recall of carrot juice

The DuPage County Health Department has informed county businesses of the U.S. Food and Drug Administration recall of Bolthouse Farms Carrot Juice that may contain the organism that causes botulism. The health department has contacted businesses that may have received tainted carrot juice and advised them to remove the suspect products from their shelves.

The health department is also warning consumers and sending information to local physicians and hospitals about the carrot juice recall and the symptoms of botulism.

The FDA has reported four cases of botulism linked to Bolthouse Farms Carrot Juice. The products include “Bolthouse Farms 100% Carrot Juice,” “Earthbound Farm Organic Carrot Juice and “President’s Choice Organics 100% Pure Carrot Juice.” The FDA is warning consumers not to drink these brands of carrot juice in 450 ml and one liter bottles with “Best If Used By” dates of Nov. 11, 2006 or earlier. Consumers should discard these products.

The Illinois Department of Public Health said Monday there are no reports of anyone in Illinois becoming ill with botulism after drinking Bolthouse Farms brand carrot juice or any other brand of carrot juice. Health officials said persons who think they may have experienced symptoms of illness after drinking carrot juice are urged to contact their health care providers.

Adequate refrigeration is one of the keys to food safety and is essential to prevent pathogen growth. Refrigerator temperatures should be no higher than 40 degrees F and freezer temperatures no higher than 0 degrees F. Consumers should check the temperatures occasionally with an appliance thermometer. Consumers should look for the words “Keep Refrigerated” on juice labels so they know which products require refrigeration. The FDA is looking into where the industry’s current juice labels provide clear refrigeration instructions.

