



STATE OF CONNECTICUT

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH

EHS Circular Letter # 2009-68

Date: November 2, 2009

To: Local Directors of Health
Chief Sanitarians
Certified Food Inspectors
Interested Parties

From: Tracey Weeks, MS, RS; Food Protection Program

Subject: **Recall of Bulk Ground Beef from Fairbank Farms**

The United States Department of Agriculture, Food Safety Inspection Service (USDA-FSIS) has announced a voluntary recall of 545,699 pounds of bulk ground beef after it was discovered the product might be contaminated with *E.coli* O157:H7. This product was shipped to various grocery stores throughout New England. The Food Protection Program (FPP) is aware of recalled product in Connecticut, mainly in grocery store chains such as Shaw's, Stop & Shop, Price Chopper, BJ's and Trader Joe's. **Illnesses have been reported in connection with the recalled products.**

A list of products being recalled, as well as product labels can be viewed at http://www.fsis.usda.gov/News_&_Events/Recall_059_2009_Release/index.asp. Consumers who have purchased the recalled product should return the product to the store where it was originally purchased for a refund and disposal. Although the recalled product has a sell-by date that has since expired, there is concern that customers may have product leftover in their home freezers.

Local health departments having grocery stores located within their jurisdiction, which have received recalled product and are included in the recall, should follow-up with the stores directly. Any customers who believe they may have illness from consuming the recalled product should contact their Primary Care Physician immediately for evaluation and follow-up. The Department of Consumer Protection, (DCP) Food & Standard Division is aware of the recall and should be contacted at 860-713-6160 for additional information and follow-up.

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