

Food and Safety Recall Resources:

There have been many recalls for food items in the news lately, and some announcements of outbreaks from foodborne illness in parts of the country. I would like to remind you how you can get announcements of food recalls yourself, or where you can go at your convenience to find recall information.

(1) A good website entry point for recalls from all federal agencies is: www.recalls.gov
This site can also get you recall information on other kinds of consumer good also (consumer product, medicine, cosmetics, boats, etc.).

(2) If you know you want foods regulated by the Food and Drug Administration, FDA's recall site is:
<https://www.fda.gov/Safety/Recalls/default.htm>

You can sign to receive EMAIL alerts when a recall is issued. There is a very obvious link and call to to that near the top of the page in the link above. (Right now a blue shaded box with bold language about signing up for alerts and a link to do that.)

(3) If you know you want foods regulated by USDA, USDA's recall site is:
<https://www.fsis.usda.gov/wps/portal/fsis/topics/recalls-and-public-health-alerts> or <http://www.fsis.usda.gov/recalls>

You can sign up for Email Updates from FSIS-USDA here: <https://service.govdelivery.com/accounts/USFSIS/subscriber/new>
Once you submit your email address, you will get to choose the topics for which you want to receive updates; it does not automatically sign you up for all USDA updates even though the first screen looks like it might. One of the categories in their menu is "FSIS Recalls".

(4) Foodsafety.gov also lists recent recall links from both FDA and USDA: <https://www.foodsafety.gov/recalls/recent/index.html>
(They have a link to Recall & Alerts on their homepage also, so you just have to remember www.foodsafety.gov)

(5) CDC carries information on outbreak investigations here:
<https://www.cdc.gov/outbreaks/>

These investigations are updated regularly throughout the course of an investigation. When you are looking at a final report, or closed investigation, there is such notification. These outbreak reports have links at the bottom for other relevant information about the particular outbreak and illness involved, and if there are associated recall notices, there are usually the links to FDA or USDA provided also.

Hopefully this information will help you keep up to date on recalls and find more information when you hear something in the news. If you sign up with FDA and USDA, you often know before you hear it in the evening news! You also can use the FDA, USDA and CDC sites to learn a lot more about foodborne outbreaks and food safety, as well as how investigations are carried out.

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